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MATERIALS FOR THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN AND PARISH OF WELLINGTON IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

BY ARTHUR L. HUMPHREYS

PART THREE

NONCONFORMIST HISTORY

THE INDEPENDENTS

187 PICCADILLY, LONDON, W

1913

Five Shillings Net.

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PART III

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INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE INDEPENDENTS OR CONGREGATIONALISTS

THE Western Counties have for generations been a stronghold of Nonconformity, and those towns in the West which were stirred up and affected by the Civil War or the Monmouth Rebellion, retain to this day a firm adhesion to the faith of those of their fathers who sided with Cromwell or with Monmouth. To unfold the history of Nonconformity in any western town is to reveal the lives of those who fought fiercely for the beliefs that were in them, and to bring into the light 'village Hampdens' and other heroic characters. No one will deny that these belong to the salt of the earth.

Every one who knows Wellington, and who can look back even one generation, is well aware how permanent an element in the town is the strong love of independent thought in matters of religion, and those who care to investigate more deeply the history of the place will find that the same feelings and sympathies have dominated right back to 1662, the date of the Act of Uniformity. As one who has with singleness of purpose tried to gather together historical facts relating to the history of Wellington, and to see such data in their right proportion, I now offer to the town an historical narrative of that part played by the section of the Dissenters first known as Presbyterians and then as Independents.

It is with a desire to do justice to the position of the Dissenters in Wellington that I am devoting at least three sections of this book to their history, and as the Independents are the oldest, I allot to them the first of the three parts and record what I have

discovered in connection with their history. I have no 'axe to grind' in this or any other part of the book. I only wish to place permanently on record what is discoverable by means of research respecting the inhabitants of the town, and in this particular section of my book to note the development of the Independents and their cause, and to give biographical details of the ministers and of any others who reached eminence in their particular callings.

The Independents in Wellington started at or soon after the enforcement of the Act of Uniformity in 1662. By that Act the Reverend Joseph Alleine, of St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, was ejected; but he continued to preach at Taunton and in the neighbourhood, including Wellington. It is known that in 1666 a warrant was issued for the arrest of Alleine for preaching to Dissenters in a dyer's house at Wellington, where he resided. To the meetings held by Alleine should be ascribed the beginnings of Independency at Wellington.

In 1669, or before, many other ejected ministers combined to work certain districts in turn, and at the above date (1669) meetings were held at Wellington and West Buckland in the houses of Daniel Lock and the 'Widow Mar.' The ministers were Benjamin Berry, George Binden, Samuel Stodden, Robert Drake, John Hill, John Gardner, and John Hardridge. All honour to these pious founders, particulars of whose lives are found herein.

In 1672 the Presbyterians (as they then called themselves) of Wellington had a stated minister, one Timothy Batt, who obtained a licence to preach to them in John Norman's house, then known as the Old Court House, and in the house of Daniel Lock, the exact situation of which is not now known. Here I may allude to the interesting fact that from Timothy Batt's time the Independents have held services at no time more than a few yards from where they now are. First, as I have said, in the old Court House nearly opposite the present chapel. Next in a building on the site or just behind the 'Three Cups' Inn, and then after some difference with the landlord of the 'Three Cups,' James Perry, a member of a family honourably associated with the history of the town for centuries, by deed dated 18th July, 1728, gave the site upon

which a 'meeting-house' was to be erected. Here the old chapel was built and stood until the new one was put up in 1860–61.

A study of the lives of the various ministers will reveal many curious and diverse characteristics. There is the persistent courage and zeal of the eminent Joseph Alleine, who suffered imprisonment and much sickness for conscience' sake. Then there is the roving life of Timothy Batt, who seemed unable to hold any one living for many years in succession. Malachi Blake, hitherto considered the founder of the Church, but now known *not* to have had that honour, was actively mixed up in the Monmouth Rebellion of 1685. There is a pathetic ending to Humphrey Berry's ministry, 'he died at an advanced age . . . his ministry had been protracted too far beyond the period of mental or physical vigour.' With these must be contrasted that luminary of the eighteenth century, Risdon Darracott, friend of George Whitefield and Philip Doddridge, who with flaming zeal delivered his message in Wellington for eighteen years, 1741–1759. Darracott roused the Church from the lethargy produced by the aged Humphrey Berry. Joseph Chadwick had a bad beginning, for his tutor declined to be present at his ordination because he refused to meet those who showed leanings towards Unitarianism. Joseph Chadwick himself was suspected of the same doctrines, and on these grounds the Independent Fund declined to grant him any monetary assistance. John Giles, who succeeded Joseph Chadwick, posed at first as a Royalist, but afterwards, upon going to America, he became a red-hot Republican, and condemned his native country with much bitterness. The greatest trouble to the Church appears to have been caused by Thomas Parish, who, besides causing a split in the Church, behaved in such an overbearing manner that the remnant of the congregation presented a petition to the trustees to have him removed. After the removal of Mr. Parish peace reigned under his successors, Tyerman, Lewis, Bannister, and Cuff. Then came the ministry of William Winlaw, when the Church was again disturbed by factions that led to the resignation of Mr. Winlaw under circumstances of excitement. Under his successor, James Le Couteur, unanimity again prevailed; the old church was demolished and a new one, the present building, erected. Davison, Courtnall, and Blake, who succeeded Mr. Le Couteur, ministered for a few years each. Mr. Joyce, the present

minister, has taken an active interest in local matters, and during his ministry many alterations and improvements have been effected in the church. Biographical details of all the ministers have been given, and are the result of considerable research.

There is a section of the book about which I wish to say a little. I regret that the Registers are not more complete. From 1728, the date when the old chapel was built and a burial-ground acquired, there must have been at some time a register kept. What I print are Births and Baptisms from 1786–1837, and Burials from 1812–1837. They are extracted from the original Registers now lodged at Somerset House. In reference to these it is regrettable to perceive that so much carelessness was shown in keeping them. The dates of christening in several cases appear earlier than the dates of birth! Some of these occurrences have been called attention to in footnotes.

I wish to say, finally, how much I am indebted to kind friends for help, though assistance has not been forthcoming from quarters where one would expect it to have been given. The present minister, the Rev. G. W. Joyce, has not answered any of my letters, and I may say that he is a solitary instance throughout the course of my experience of the refusal by a minister to assist a humble student of the history of the church over which he presides. To Mr. W. W. S. Johnson, of the British Museum, I cannot express my gratitude sufficiently, and to Mrs. Miller, of Topsham, a daughter of the Rev. William Cuff, and to Mr. James Gosnell I am also indebted for much kindness.

A. L. H.

January, 1913.

DATES OF SOME IMPORTANT EVENTS

1662, August 24. St. Bartholomew's Day, when the 'Act of Uniformity' caused the ejectment of about 2000 ministers for Non-Conformity.

1666, March 24. 'Five Mile Act' came into force. Joseph Alleine, a Presbyterian minister, in this year resided at Wellington for a time and preached there in a dyer's house.

1668. Joseph Alleine, the first recorded Presbyterian preacher at Wellington, died at Bath, 17 November.

1669. The following Presbyterian ministers were known to preach at Wellington at the house of Daniel Lock:—Benjamin Berry, George Binden, Samuel Stodden, or Stadden, Robert Drake, John Hill, John Gardner, James Hardridge, or Hadderidge.

1672, March 15. 'Declaration of Indulgence' issued by Charles II.

1672, May. Timothy Batt obtained a licence to be a teacher to a Congregation of Presbyterians meeting at Wellington in John Norman's house (the Old Court house), and Daniel Lock's house.

1685, June and July. Monmouth Rebellion.

1687, April 4. 'Declaration of Indulgence' issued by James II.

1688. Landing of William, Prince of Orange, and flight of James II.

1689, May 24. 'Toleration Act' received the assent of William III.

1689, July 16. Licence granted for meetings to be held at the house of James 'Giffard.' James Gifford at this period was the owner of premises afterwards known as the 'Three Cups Inn.'

1689–1705. Malachi Blake was probably pastor of the Presbyterians at Wellington about this period. He died in 1705.

1705–1741. Humphrey Berry was pastor during the major portion of this period. It is certain he was pastor from 1715 to 1741. The Congregation met somewhere behind the 'Three Cups Inn' until 1728 or 1730.

1728. Trouble arising from the attitude of the landlord of the 'Three Cups Inn' James Perry, by deed dated 18 July, 1728, gave the site on which a meeting house was to be erected, on which site now stands the present Congregational Chapel in Fore Street.

1730. New Presbyterian meeting house opened for public service.

1741. Death of Humphrey Berry.

1741–1759. Risdon Darracott, pastor.

1743, October 22. George Whitefield preached.

1747, December 25. Trust deed by which Robert Pyne granted an annuity of £4 to be paid to each successive pastor of the 'Protestant Presbyterian Dissenters' of Wellington.

1748. Chapel enlarged.

1749, August 15. George Whitefield preached at Wellington.

1750, February. George Whitefield again visited Wellington and stayed with Mr. Darracott. It was when describing this visit to Lady Huntingdon that Whitefield named Darracott as 'the Star in the West.'

1751, March. Wellington again visited by George Whitefield.

1752. Benjamin Fawcett of Kidderminster acted as pastor for a time while Darracott filled his place at Kidderminster.

1759, March 14. Death of Mr. Darracott.

1759, April 15. Darracott's funeral sermon preached by Benjamin Fawcett.

1759–1767. Jeremiah Field, pastor. He died 27th April, 1767.

1767–1777. Richard Parminter, pastor.

1772, October 19. Deed of Assignment, concerning the chapel.

1776, June 20. Trust deed. Lands known as Cordings vested in trustees, the proceeds to be used for the repairing of the chapel.

1777, December. Richard Parminter left.

1778–1785. Joseph Chadwick, pastor.

1786–1795. John Giles, pastor.

1795–1799 (?). Thomas Parish, pastor.

1799. Petition to the Trustees to cause Mr. Parish to be expelled from his pastorate.

1800–1804 (?). Daniel Tyerman, pastor.

1802, October 14. New Trust deed concerning Cordings.

DATES OF SOME IMPORTANT EVENTS.

1802, November 29. Will of William Prickman, who bequeathed £20, to trustees, for the use of the minister of the Presbyterian Meeting house.

1805–7 (?) William Lewis, pastor.

1807–1812. William Bannister, pastor.

1812–1845. John Harcombe Cuff, pastor.

1813, September 8. Ordination service of J. H. Cuff.

1815, August 31. Trust deed concerning a plot of land at Chelston Heathfield, the profits thereof to be used for repairing the Meeting house in Wellington.

1826, December 18. An Assignment from Messrs. Fox and others to Mr. Nott.

1829, January 1. Trust deed concerning tenement called Berry's in Mantle Street and Bowerman's Lane. The rents and profits thereof to be paid to the pastor for the time being, or towards the repair of the Meeting house, or the school house about to be erected.

1829, February 23. Trust deed concerning two cottages, &c., in Bowerman's Lane. The rents, &c., to be paid to the pastor for the time being for his benefit, or for the repairing of the Meeting house, or the school house about to be erected.

1832, September 19. Trust deed concerning land and the chapel at Wrangway.

1837, August. The chapel registered for solemnizing marriages.

1838, April 28. First marriage celebrated in the chapel since the new Act authorised it.

1839, March 17. Mr. Cuff first preached at Nynehead.

1839, October 15. New chapel at Nynehead opened.

1840, July 30. Ford Street Chapel opened.

1840, September 18. Trust deed concerning a piece of ground between the 'Squirrel Inn' and the burial ground belonging to the Independent Meeting house.

1844, February 24. Trust deed concerning property in Mantle Street.

1845, May 25. Chapel closed for repairs.

1845, October 29. Death of Mr. Cuff.

1846–1850. William Winlaw, pastor. Ordination service, 19 May, 1846.

1846, July 5. Sunday School struck by lightning ; fourteen children struck, one killed.

1850, August 7. Large meeting at the Town Hall to make a presentation to Mr. Winlaw, and endeavours made to persuade him not to resign.

1851–1869. James Le Couteur, pastor.

1851, January. Monthly observance of the Lord's Supper instituted.

1854, October 2. Trust deed appointing new trustees concerning a rent charge of £4.

1860, May 4. Foundation stone of the new chapel and schoolrooms laid.

1861, June 26. New chapel and schoolrooms opened.

1861, July 25. New chapel registered for solemnizing marriages.

1862. John Nott's legacy of £200 for the school at Wrangway.

1865. New organ erected.

1866, June 6. Trust deed appointing new trustees for property in Bowerman's Lane and Mantle Street.

1867, May 25. Trust deed appointing new trustees.

1869, December 28. Death of Mr. Le Couteur.

1870–1873. P. Hewart Davison, pastor.

1873–1879. William Courtnall, pastor.

1873. Restrictions placed on burials in the chapel and burial ground.

1880–1884. Wm. Moody Blake, pastor.

1883, December 21. Trust deed executed.

1885–. George Wm. Joyce, pastor.

1892. Structural alterations and repairs to the chapel, position of the organ altered.

1910. Chapel renovated and organ enlarged.

1911, October 20. Jubilee of the present Chapel and Sunday School celebrated.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND ITS MINISTERS

THE Congregational Church, Fore Street, Wellington, during its long history has been known by various names. In the early days of nonconformity, meetings for worship not held in conformity with the Established Church were not referred to by denominational names. The meetings for worship held at various places in Somerset by Joseph Alleine, a Presbyterian minister who preached at Wellington, were called, at his trial in 1663, 'Seditious meetings, by reason whereof the King and the Council are in many fears,'[1] and the preachers were accused of holding 'unlawful riotous and seditious assemblies.'[2] In 1669 when an Episcopal return was made of the nonconformist meetings held in Somerset, the meetings were not named according to their denomination, but were referred to as 'Conventicles' no matter what their beliefs may have been, although the preachers at Wellington were known to be of the Presbyterian persuasion. In 1672 the meeting at Wellington was referred to as a 'Congregation of the Presbyterian Judgment.' This Congregation retained the name of Presbyterian for a long period. The Trust deed dated 25 December, 1747, refers to this church as 'The Congregation of Protestant Presbyterian Dissenters,' and in 1795 the Congregation were calling themselves 'Protestant Dissenters meeting for religious worship at the Independent Presbyterian Meeting house.' In a deed dated 31 August, 1815, the chapel is referred to as the 'Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting House,' and deeds dated 1 January and 23 February, 1829, refer to the 'Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting House now commonly called Independent Meeting House.' A deed dated 19 September, 1832, refers to the 'Presbyterian or Independent' meeting house in Fore Street, and in 1837 the chapel was registered for marriages under the title of 'Independent Chapel.' A deed dated 18 September, 1840, refers to this Congregation as 'The Congregation of Protestant Dissenters called Presbyterians more frequently now called Independents of Wellington.' Apparently by 1844 the term 'Presbyterian' had been completely discarded, for a deed dated 24 February, 1844, refers to

[1] Stanford's *Joseph Alleine*, p. 24. [2] *Ibid*, 229.

'The Independent (formerly called Presbyterian) Meeting House in Wellington.' In 1861 the present chapel was registered for marriages as the 'Congregational Independent Chapel.'

From the foregoing we perceive that the present Congregational Church of Wellington is the descendant of those sturdy Presbyterians, who, when the 'Act of Uniformity' was passed in 1662, found that they could not conscientiously conform to the rules and ceremonies of the 'Book of Common Prayer' and thereupon left their parish churches, and in defiance of the various 'Conventicle Acts' passed to suppress them, held their meetings in private houses, barns, or any other place where they could meet in secret to worship as their consciences directed, and thereby risked, and many suffered, fines, imprisonment, and persecution, which often ended in ruin, suffering, and death.

The conditions under which the early Nonconformists held their meetings, their fear of discovery, prove somewhat detrimental to the historian who is seeking for precise information concerning the early history of an early Nonconformist Church, as the danger that would arise from the keeping of records and registers of such meetings would almost effectually prevent such records being made. Therefore it is not to be wondered at that the early history of the Nonconformist Presbyterians of Wellington cannot be shown with any great degree of preciseness and continuity.

One of the effects of the 'Act of Uniformity' was to cause the ejectment of about 2000 ministers from their livings in the Church of England, because of their refusal to conform to the demands of that Act. A large number of the ministers so ejected refused to be silenced, and they continued to preach and teach wherever they could gather together a meeting. They tried to carry on their ministerial labours in the parishes in which they had held office and in the country surrounding. Many of them appeared to work in groups and worked certain districts between them, so that many towns and villages holding secret Conventicles had a change of ministers and were not confined to the services of one.[1]

There is no doubt, as will be presently shown, that the Presbyterians of Wellington held secret Conventicles after the passing of the 'Act of Uniformity,' and that they were held under the auspices of various ministers. Up to the present the earliest authentic record that I have been able to discover refers to meetings held by the Rev. Joseph Alleine, a Presbyterian[2] minister, in 1666.

[1] Compare the names of the preachers and the places at which they held Conventicles as given in the *Episcopal Returns*, 1669, for the Diocese of Bath and Wells, printed in G. L. Turner's *Original Records*, 1911, i. 5–12.

[2] Joseph Alleine at his trial in 1663 claimed, in his defence, that he had done nothing but what belonged to his duty as a minister ordained by the Presbytery. (C. Stanford's *Life of Alleine*, pp. 234–5.)

Joseph Alleine, son of Tobie Alleine, of Devizes, was born at Devizes in 1634. He desired to enter the ministry and in April, 1649, he entered Lincoln College, Oxford. He obtained his degree of B.D. 6 July, 1653. In 1654 he declined enticing offers to serve in the State. In 1655 the Rev. George Newton, Vicar of St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, desired him to become his assistant, and he accepted. He married Theodosia, daughter of Richard Alleine, parson of Batcombe, Somerset, 4 October, 1655. After two years of married life his wife undertook to keep a school in Taunton, which proved a great success. In 1662 Joseph Alleine declined to accede to the demands of the 'Act of Uniformity,' whereupon he was ejected from his post. However, he refused to remain silent, and went about the surrounding district preaching and teaching wherever he could gather people together to hear him. He continued this work from St. Bartholomew's Day, 24 August, 1662, until the May following. His wife says, 'Though often threatened, yet he was never interrupted, though the people both of the town and country were grown so resolute that they came in great multitudes, at whatever season the meeting was appointed; very seldom missing twice a Sabbath, and often in the week. I know that he hath preached fourteen times in eight days, and ten often, and six or seven ordinarily in these months, at home and abroad, besides his frequent converse with souls.'[1] He was arrested on the 23 May, 1663, and tried for breaking the 'Act of Uniformity' and for his preaching. He was found guilty at the Assizes, and fined 100 marks and to 'lie in jayle' until it was paid.[2] He was imprisoned in Ilchester gaol until May, 1664, but upon his release he resumed immediately his preaching. He became very ill in August, 1664, and lost the use of his arms from October, 1664, to April, 1665. He went to Devizes to recruit his health in the summer of 1665, and then returned to Taunton. His weakness returned the following winter, but in spite of this, and although he was often threatened and warrants were issued for his arrest, he continued to preach at various places.

In October, 1665, the 'Five Miles Act' was passed, and came into force on the 24 March, 1666. As Joseph Alleine refused to take the oath in accordance with this Act he was forced to leave Taunton, and 'He moved to a place called Wellington, which is reckoned five miles from Taunton, to a dyer's house in a very obscure place where he preached on the Lord's Day, as he was able. But the vigilant eyes of his old adversarys were so watchful over him, that they soon found him out, and resolved to take him thence, and had put a warrant into the constable's hand to apprehend him, and sent for our friend, and threatened to send him to gaol for entertaining such persons in his house. So my husband returned to the house of Mr. John Mallack,

[1] *Life of Alleine*, by his widow, 1672, p. 53. [2] C. Stanford, *Joseph Alleine*, p. 242.

a merchant, who lived about a mile from Taunton, who had long solicited him to take his house for his home.'[1]

The questions here naturally arise, where was the dyer's house situated? and who was the friend that risked so much by allowing an illegal gathering of Nonconformists presided over by an ejected minister to take place in his house? Unfortunately, to the best of my knowledge, satisfactory answers to these questions have not been forthcoming.

Concerning the situation of the 'dyer's house,' Charles Stanford in his life of Alleine says: 'Attempts lately made to identify the place by the help of tradition have all failed,'[2] and he further adds 'Even had he [Mr. Alleine] been silent he would not have been safe, for it was thought that the house in which he lodged was not quite five miles from Taunton,'[3] and he gives the following reason: 'The two towns are nearly seven miles apart; but the parish of Hill Bishops [or Bishops Hull] joins that of Taunton, and lies between it and Wellington. Mr. Newton was minister of both parishes, the duties of the former being chiefly performed by a chaplain, Mr. N. Charlton. Having been Mr. Newton's assistant, Mr. Alleine's ministry was regarded as having had the same parochial extent; and the informer probably contended that from the limit of Hill Bishops the outermost parish, to the house at which he lodged on this side of Wellington, there was not quite five miles space.'[4]

Who was the 'dyer' who entertained Alleine at his house in Wellington in 1666? This interesting question in the history of the Presbyterian Church of Wellington still remains unanswered, but we do know that Presbyterian meetings were held in 1669 at the houses of Daniel Lock and the widow Mar,[5] and in 1672 in the house of Daniel Lock and at John Norman's house called the 'Old Court House.' Can the dyer's house be identified with one of these? more especially with a house belonging to the Norman family. It is significant in connection with the history of the Presbyterian Church in Wellington that Joseph Alleine was very intimate with the Norman family, the Norman family was allied by marriage with the Blake family at this period, and the founding of the Presbyterian Church at Wellington has been ascribed to Malachi Blake, who was related to the famous Admiral Blake. A few words explanatory of the connection is here necessary.

The Rev. John Norman who was ejected from St. Mary's, Bridgwater, was a very intimate friend and companion of Alleine's. He had been acquainted with Alleine at Oxford, and Alleine's wife, Theodosia, called him 'My brother Norman' because, it is said, her

[1] *Life of Alleine*, by his widow, 1672, p. 64.
[2] *Joseph Alleine*, by C. Stanford, 1861, p. 321. [3] *Ibid.* 321-2. [4] *Ibid.* 322.
[5] Probably *Mare*, *Meare*, or *Meire* family.

sister had been his first wife.[1] John Norman was imprisoned at Ilchester gaol at the same time as Mr. Alleine.[2] He married, as his second wife, a daugher of Humphrey Blake (nephew of the famous Admiral Blake) who emigrated to Carolina because of the persecution he was subjected to for being a Nonconformist.[3] John Norman died in January, 1668, and was buried at Bridgwater, 9 February, 1668.

The above few notes on John Norman is strong presumptive evidence that Alleine was well acquainted with the Norman and Blake families and it is not presuming too much to conclude that the John Norman of the Old Court House of Wellington was connected with Alleine's friend, John Norman of Bridgwater. In 1680, a John Norman[4] described as a 'clothier' was resident in Wellington. Although there is a strong probability that a member of the Norman family may have offered Alleine in 1666 an asylum in Wellington we must wait for further evidence to decide who was the 'dyer' that befriended him.

Although 1666 is the earliest date so far produced referring to the existence of meetings of Presbyterians at Wellington, we must not assume that none were held before that year. It is very probable that secret meetings were held, when possible, from the time of the enforcement of the 'Act of Uniformity' in 1662, and were conducted by Alleine or other ministers, for we find from Alleine's biography that he and other ministers went about the country preaching and teaching at these unlawful Conventicles. Among the ministers who went about preaching in Somersetshire at this period was John Wesley, the grandfather of the founder of Methodism, who from March to May, 1663, preached almost every day, dividing his time between Mr. Alleine's people at Taunton and Mr. Norman's at Bridgwater.[5]

After giving up his house at Wellington, Mr. Alleine went to John Mallack's house at Fullands, but many friends wanted him, so he went from one house to another staying a fortnight or longer, but he looked upon Mr. Mallack's house as his home. On the 10 July, 1666, many friends gathered at Mr. Mallack's house to take leave of Mr. Alleine before he departed for the 'waters,' when the house was invaded by the Justices and they were all charged to appear before the Justices at the Castle Tavern, Taunton, next day. Mr. Alleine with seven other ministers and forty other persons were committed to Ivelchester prison.[6] After his release in 1667 he spent some time at Devizes, Dorchester, Taunton, and Bath, undergoing a great deal of suffering from his ill-health, and he died at Bath, 17 November, 1668. He was buried in the chancel of Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, and

[1] Stanford's *Joseph Alleine*, p. 102.
[2] *Life of Alleine*, 1672, pp. 56, 58.
[3] Stanford's *Joseph Alleine*, p. 359.
[4] See p. 54 of this work.—Will of Mary Howson.
[5] Stanford's *Joseph Alleine*, p. 209.
[6] *Life of Alleine*, 1672, pp. 64-6.

the Rev. George Newton preached his funeral sermon, which was published.

Alleine was of a very studious nature, and was well known for his liberality; he exerted himself very much to visit the rich to procure maintenance for nonconforming ministers that were in want.[1] He was very keen on visiting the families, systematically, in his parish, and gave much time to the catechising of children concerning their knowledge of religion. He was a firm believer in prayer and self-examination, and allotted several hours a day for this exercise.[2] His wife said of him that when in health 'he rose constantly about four a'clock in the morning, and sooner on the Sabbaths if he did wake. From four till eight he spent in prayer, meditation, and singing of Psalms.... Then having refreshed himself about the space of half-an-hour, he went to family duties, and after that, to his study till about eleven or twelve a'clock. Having refreshed himself a while after dinner he retired into his study to secret prayer, and then went abroad amongst those families which he was to visit, to whom he always gave notice the day before. He went forth about two o'clock, and seldom returned before seven. He would often say, "Give me that Christian that accounts his time more precious than Gold."'[2]

Joseph Alleine was the author of several popular works, a list of which is given in *Joseph Alleine*, by Charles Stanford, London, 1851, pp. 393–5. See also the *General Catalogue* of the British Museum. Among them may be mentioned:

An Alarm to Unconverted Sinners, 1671, 8vo. of which about 20,000 copies were sold. It was afterwards republished as *A Sure Guide to Heaven*, of which 50,000 copies were sold.

A Call to Archippus, 1664. 4to.

Explanation of the Assembly's Shorter Catechism, 1664. 12mo.

Divers Practical Cases of Conscience judiciously solved, 1671.

The Remains of... Joseph Alleine, being a Collection of Sundry Directions, Sermons, Speeches, Letters, not heretofore published, 1672.

There are several biographies extant of Joseph Alleine, the most important being:

Life and Death of Joseph Alleine [partly written by his widow Theodosia Alleine, with an Introduction by Richard Baxter], London, 1672.

Memoirs of the Life of Joseph Alleine, published by the American Sunday School Union, Philadelphia, 1829.

Joseph Alleine; his Companions and Times, a memorial of 'Black Bartholomew,' 1662, by Charles Stanford, London, 1851.

[1] S. Clarke, *Lives of Eminent Persons*, 1683, p. 141. [2] *Ibid.* p. 157.

Dictionary of National Biography.

Nonconformist's Memorial, by Edmund Calamy, London, 1802-3, vol. iii. 206-11.

Lives of Sundry Eminent Persons in the later age, by Samuel Clark, London, 1683, folio, pp. 138-160.

A Sermon preached at the Funeral of Mr. Joseph Alleine, by Mr. George Newton, late minister of Taunton in Somersetshire, London, 1672.

We have seen that Presbyterian meetings were held in Wellington in 1666. The next authenticated evidence that we have of such meetings is dated 1669. In that year, in response to instructions issued by Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, returns were made by the various dioceses concerning the number of Nonconformists, where the Conventicles were held, and who were the preachers or teachers discovered in each diocese. These returns are known as the 'Episcopal Returns for 1669,' and are preserved in the Lambeth Palace Library, being vol. 639 of the Tenison Manuscripts. They are also printed in G. L. Turner's *Original Records of Early Nonconformity*, London, 1911, vol. i. In these returns it is reported that 'Conventicles' were held at Wellington and Buckland at the houses of Daniel Lock and the widow Mar, and that the teachers or preachers were Mr. Berry, Mr. Binden, Mr. Stadden, Mr. Drake, Mr. Hill, Mr. Gardner, and Mr. Hardridge, and that the frequenters of these Conventicles numbered four hundred.[1] All the above named were Presbyterian ministers who had been ejected from their livings for nonconformity, and I have no doubt that the following biographical notes concerning these early preachers to the Presbyterians of Wellington will prove of interest, inasmuch as they must be numbered among those who in the days of persecution helped to gather and keep together the congregation, the founders of the present Congregational Church of Wellington.

Benjamin Berry, matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, 19 November, 1650, he was a chorister of Magdalen College, 1650–4, and obtained his B.A. 18 June, 1652. He was ejected as a nonconformist from his living at Mary Tavy, or Huxham, Devon, on St. Bartholomew's Day, 1662, and was also cast out of Trull, Somerset. For some time he was at Topsham.[2] In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669 Mr. Berry is entered as being a teacher or preacher at Conventicles held at the houses of Daniel Lock and the widow Mar in Wellington and Buckland, also at Pitminster, Dulverton, and Brushford in Somerset, and at Cruse Morehead and Crediton in

[1] G. L. Turner, *Original Records of Early Nonconformity*, London, 1911, vol. i. 5.
[2] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1802, ii. 51.

Devon.[1] In 1672, after the 'Declaration of Indulgence,' he applied for a licence to preach at his own house and that of Tho. Sheers in Exon, and also to be a teacher to people of the 'Presbyterian Judgment' in Trull.[2] He was also one of the nonconformist ministers in Devon who signed *The Grateful Acknowledgment*, 22 March, 1671–2, to Charles II. for his 'Declaration of Indulgence dated March 15, 167½.'[3] His funeral sermon was preached by Mr. George Trosse.[4]

George Binden, or Bindon, son of George of Hillfarrance, matriculated at Oxford, Lincoln College, 27 March, 1640, aged 18; B.A. from Brasenose College, 12 October, 1643.[5] A person of this name subscribed to the *Attestation* in 1648 as preacher at Angersleigh. He had a wide knowledge of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Chaldee, and Syriac, and taught at a school at Staplegrove. He was ejected for nonconformity from his chapel at Wilton, Somerset.[6] In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669, besides being a preacher at Wellington and Buckland, he is also entered as holding Conventicles at West Monckton and places adjacent, Taunton Magdalen, and at his own house at Staplegrove.[7] In 1672 he applied for and obtained (8 May, 1672) a licence to preach to Presbyterians at Culmstock, Devon,[8] and also obtained a licence (10 August, 1672) to preach in his house at Staplegrove.[9]

Samuel Stodden, or Stadden, matriculated at Oxford, Lincoln College, 25 July, 1655.[10] He was ejected for nonconformity from Buckland, Somerset; after which it is thought that he practised physic.[11] In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669 he is mentioned as a preacher or teacher at Conventicles held at Wellington and Buckland.[12] In 1672 he applied for and obtained a licence to preach to Presbyterians at Woodberry, Devon.[13] He was one of the nonconformist ministers of Devon who signed the 'Grateful Acknowledgment,' 22 March, 1671–2, to Charles II. for his 'Declaration of Indulgence.'[14] His funeral sermon was preached by Mr. Walrond of Ottery.[15]

He was the author of several works, *i.e.*, *An Essay on a Question relating to Divine Worship*, London, 1682, 4to. *The Pastor's Charge; and the People's Duty. Preached at the Assembly of*

[1] G. L. Turner, *Original Records of Nonconformity*, i. 5, 6, 8, 42, 44.
[2] *Ibid.* i. 220, 294, 304, 342, 378, 428, 485, 595, 613. [3] *Ibid.* 195–6.
[4] Calamy, ii. 51. [5] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.*
[6] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1802–3, iii. 225.
[7] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, &c., i. 5, 6.
[8] *Ibid.* i. 312, 313, 314, 345, 467. [9] *Ibid.* 520, 549.
[10] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* [11] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1802–3, iii. 178.
[12] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, i. 5. [13] *Ibid.* i. 205, 218, 233, 247, 292, 457.
[14] *Ibid.* i. 195–6. [15] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, iii. 178.

Ministers at Exon, June 7th, 1693, London, 1694, 12mo. *Gemitus Sanctorum; or the Saint's Groans for Deliverance, Sermons, &c.* 1702. *An Answer to Mr. Burscough, of Schism. The Voice of the Rod.* &c., &c.

A portrait of Samuel Stodden appears in Calamy's *Nonconformist's Memorial*, London, 1803, iii. 178.

Robert Drake. A person of this name was created B.A. Oxford, from Pembroke College, 15 April, 1648, compounded for the first fruits of the rectory of West Monckton, Somerset, in December, 1657, ejected from West Monckton for nonconformity in 1662, and was buried at Pitminster, 21 March, 1688–9.[1]

In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669 he is returned as being a preacher or teacher at Conventicles held at Wellington and Buckland, West Monckton and the places adjacent, also at Pitminster.[2] In 1672, after the 'Declaration of Indulgence,' he applied for and obtained (16 April, 1672) a licence to preach to Presbyterians at the house of Peter Southwood in the parish of [West] Buckland in Somersetshire.[3]

Mr. Hill, who preached to the Presbyterians of Wellington and Buckland in 1669, was probably the same person as John Hill,[4] son of Guy of Bristol, matriculated at Oxford, 25 November, 1631, aged 18. In 1637 he was licensed to preach at Wraxall; he was vicar of Bitton, Glouc., 1637, in 1643 of Elburton, Glouc., until ejected for loyalty. He was rector of Langridge, near Bath, in 1645, and in the same year of Elworthy, Somerset, where he was ejected for not taking the covenant, vicar of North Newington, Wilts, 1649, and of Hewish, Somerset, 1650, rector of Newton Ferrers, Devon, 1652-61, and was forced to resign, when he went to Exeter. In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669 he is entered as a preacher or teacher at Wellington and Buckland, Somerset.[5] In 1672 John Hill applied for and obtained licences to be a teacher to the Presbyterians of Dulverton and Staplegrove.[6] He died at Newton Abbot and was buried in the chancel at Woolborough.[7]

Mr. Gardner, who preached to the Presbyterians of Wellington and Buckland in 1669,[8] was probably the same person as John Gardner,[9] son of John of 'St. James, Somerset,' who matriculated at Oxford, New Inn Hall, 9 July, 1641, aged 17. A certain John Gardner, or Gardener, was ejected from the chapelry of Staplegrove,

[1] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.*; Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1803, iii. 203.
[2] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, 1911, i. 5, 6. [3] *Ibid.* i. 233, 433.
[4] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, &c., 1911, ii. 1102. Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1802–3, ii. 54; iii. 190.
[5] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, i. 5. [6] *Ibid.* i. 343, 404, 505, 514.
[7] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, ii. 54–5.
[8] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, &c., 1911, i. 5. [9] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.*

Somerset, in 1662 for nonconformity.[1] In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669 he is returned as preaching to the Presbyterians at Wellington and Buckland, West Monckton and the places adjoining, and at the houses of John Gardner and George Bindon at Staplegrove.[2] In 1672 he is described as being of Bridgwater, when he applied for and was granted a licence (19 April, 1672) to preach to the Presbyterians in any licensed place.[3]

Mr. Hardridge, one of the preachers to the Presbyterians at Wellington and Buckland in 1669, was probably the same person as James Hadderidge who was ejected from the Rectory of Halberton, Devon.[4] In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1665,[5] it is mentioned that in spite of his ejection he still remained at Halberton, and was still seditious and held Conventicles. In the 'Episcopal Returns' for 1669[6] he is referred to as 'Mr. Hardridge,' who held Conventicles at Wellington and Buckland, and as 'James Haddridge,' who preached at Collompton, Devon. In 1672, 22 March, James Hadderidge was one of the nonconformist ministers in Devon who signed the 'Grateful Acknowledgment' to Charles II. for the 'Declaration of Indulgence.'[7] In April, 1672, he obtained licences to preach to Presbyterians in his own house and Wm. Chave's house in Halberton.[8]

TIMOTHY BATT (about 1672).

The next tangible evidence that we have of the existence of a Presbyterian Congregation at Wellington is authenticated by a preacher's licence granted to Timothy Batt to preach at Wellington in 1672.

At this period it was still a dangerous proceeding for any one to hold a nonconformist meeting. Nevertheless many meetings were held, and the efforts made to coerce people into belonging to, and attending, the Established Church did not tend to a peaceful reign for Charles II., therefore he issued his famous 'Declaration of Indulgence,' a few extracts from which will not be out of place here.

'Charles R. His Ma^ties^ Declaration to all his Loveing Subjects: Our care and Endeavours for the preservation of the Rights and Interests of the Church have been sufficiently manifested to the World by the whole course of Our Government since Our happy Restauracion, and by the many and frequent wayes of Coercion that wee have used for reduceing all erring or dissenting persons, and for

[1] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1802-3, iii. 205.
[2] G. L. Turner, *Original Records*, 1911, i. 5, 6.
[3] *Ibid.* i. 236, 239, 251, 439.
[4] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.*, 1802-3, ii. 40.
[5] G. H. Turner, *Original Records*, 1911, i. 179, 186.
[6] *Ibid.* i. 5, 43.
[7] *Ibid.* i. 195-6.
[8] *Ibid.* i. 217, 233, 241, 247, 248, 433, 441.

composeing the unhappy differences in matters of Religion, which Wee found among Our Subjects upon Our Returne. But it being evident by the sad experience of twelve yeares that there is very little fruite of all those forceable Courses, Wee thinke Our Selfe oblidged to make use of that Supreame Power in Ecclesiasticall Matters which is not onely inherent in Us, but hath been declared and Recognized to be soe by severall Statutes and Acts of Parliament; And therefore Wee doe now accordingly issue this our Declaration . . . . for preventing for the future the danger that might otherwise arise from Private Meetings and Seditious Conventicles. . . .

'We doe in the next place Declare Our Will and Pleasure to bee, That the Execution of all and all manner of Penall Lawes in matters Ecclesiastical, against whatsoever sort of Non Conformists or Recusants, bee immediately suspended, and they are hereby suspended. . . .

'And that there may be no pretence for any of Our Subjects to continue their illegall Meetings and Conventicles, Wee doe Declare, That Wee shall from time to time allow a sufficient Number of Places, as they shall be desired, in all Parts of this our Kingdome, for the use of such as doe not conforme to the Church of England, to meete and Assemble in, in Order to their Publick Worship and Devotion; which Places shall be open and free to all Persons. But to prevent such disorders and inconveniences as may happen by this Our Indulgence, if not duely regulated, and that they may be the better protected by the Civill Magistrate, Our expresse Will and Pleasure is, That none of Our Subjects doe presume to meete in any Place, untill such Place bee allowed, and the Teacher of that Congregation be approved by Us. . . .

'Given att Our Court att Whitehall this fifteenth day of March in the 24th yeare of Our Reigne 167½.'

It is said that 3500 licences were granted within ten months under the terms of this 'Indulgence,' but the House of Commons objected to the King using his prerogative to suspend Penal Statutes, February, 1672-3, and the King was forced to cancel his 'Declaration of Indulgence' and the licences were called in.[1]

There is no doubt, judging from the number of licences issued, that they must have been granted freely.[2]

Three forms of licences were adopted. The first was to a teacher of a particular congregation, with a further licence to teach in any other licensed place. The second was a general licence to teach in any licensed place. The third was a licence for a place.[3] Most of

[1] R. W. Dale, *Hist. of Congregationalism*, 1907, p. 437-9.

[2] See *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series*, December, 1671 to May, 1672, which records a large number of the licences granted. Also consult the preface to that volume.

[3] *Ibid.* Preface, pp. xx. 271, 272.

the places licensed were houses belonging either to the preacher or a member of the sect. Instances of barns, malt-houses, and other buildings also occur.[1]

Timothy Batt under the protection of the 'Declaration of Indulgence,' applied for and obtained a licence to preach to the Presbyterians of Wellington in the houses of John Norman and Daniel Lock, as the following extracts from documents[2] in the Public Record Office will show.

Before 2 May, 1672, a request was made for a licence for 'Mr. Timothy Batt to be Teacher to a people of y^e^ Non-Conformitye of the Prisbeterian Judgment, The place of Worship att an old howse comonly called or knowne by the Name of the old Court house in Wellington in the County of Som^r^sett.' (*State Papers, Domestic Series, Car. II.* 320, *No.* 292.)

Before 8 May, 1672, Walter Payne requested licences for various preachers, among them being one for 'Mr. Timothy Batt to be Teacher to a Congregacon of the Presbeterian Judgment, The places for Worshipp John Norman's house in Wellington cald Old Courthowse and alsoe the howse of Daniell Lock both in the s^d^ Parish of Wellington in the Countye of Som^r^sett.' (*State Papers, Dom. Ser. Car. II.* 321, *Nos.* 37, 42.)

On 8 May, 1672, among a large number of licences granted there are two, one of which permits the houses of John Norman and Daniel Lock to be used for Presbyterian Meetings and the other permits Timothy Batt to be a Presbyterian teacher in the said houses, (*State Papers, Dom. Ser. Entry Book*, 38 *A*, *p.* 84.)

After 9 May, 1672, there is a receipt by Thomas Stone for licences granted, among them being one permitting Daniel Lock's house to be used as a meeting place and another for Timothy Batt to be a teacher there. (*State Papers, Dom. Ser. Car. II.* 321, *No.* 76.)

Incidentally I might here mention that there is evidence of a Presbyterian Meeting being held in West Buckland about this period, for a licence was granted 16 April, 1672, to Robert Drake[3] to be a Presbyterian teacher in Peter Southwood's house in Buckland parish, Somerset, and on the same day a licence was issued for Peter Southwood's house to be used as a Presbyterian Meeting place. (*State Papers, Dom. Ser. Car. II.* 320, No. 103; *Entry Book* 38 *A*, No. 23. G. L. Turner, *Original Records of Nonconformity*, 1911, i. 233, 433.)

[1] *Ibid.* Preface, p. xxiii.

[2] For these extracts I have made use of *Calendar of State Papers, Dom. Ser.* December, 1671 to 17 May, 1672, London, 1897, pp. 446, 500, 504, 505, 518. G. L. Turner, *Original Records of Nonconformity.* London, 1911, i. pp. 294, 312, 325, 467; ii., 1102-3.

[3] See also p. 325.

Timothy Batt was born 30 November, 1613.[1] He was the eldest son of Robert Batt, of Street, Somerset, a Puritan, who designed him for the ministry. He went to Wadham College, Oxford, matriculated 28 January, 1631, aged 17, then went to Emanuel College, Cambridge, where he took his degrees, B.A. in 1635, M.A. in 1638[2]; and because of his powers of elocution he was called 'Silver-tongued Batt.' Probably he was the Timothy Batt who married Elizabeth Longe at Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, 19 April, 1643.[3]

He became chaplain to Sir Robert Pye, whom he attended in the unfortunate expedition, under the Earl of Essex, into Cornwall in 1644. He then went to London, and during the civil war period ministered at Mimms in Middlesex, where he gained the affections of the people, and was afterwards kindly received by those of them that were living when he visited there in 1685.

In 1649 he was sent by the Committee of Preaching Ministers to Ilminster,[4] Somerset. This was one of the sequestered livings, from which the Rev. John Tarlton had been removed, being 'turned out of doors with his wife and four children, one of which was at that time sick. . . . At the same time Mr. Tarlton's books, and all his goods were plundered, most of which were possest by Mr. Timothy Batt, the intruder, who had not the conscience however, to pay him for them, so much as in the fifths, although he forgot not to carry them away with him, when he removed from Ilminster.'[5]

Whilst a minister at Ilminster, Timothy Batt signed '*The Attestation of the Ministers of the County of Somerset* . . . against the Errors, Heresies, and Blasphemies of the present times,' a copy of which with the names of those who signed was published in 1648.[6]

Timothy Batt became vicar of Creech St. Michael in Somerset, 1652-60, staying there until the restoration of Charles II., when, this being a sequestered living, he was forced to give it up.[7] It is related that the Rev. Henry Masters had been sequestered from this living, after which he lived in great poverty, his successors in the living being prevented from assisting him, and that 'Only Mr. Batt, who was the last of them, once gave him a suit of clothes.'[8]

Whilst at Creech St. Michael, Mr. Batt was appointed to be one of the Commissioners for Somerset empowered to act in accordance with

[1] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.* iii. 204.
[2] Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* i. 87. [3] Phillimore, *Somerset Par. Reg.* ix. 51.
[4] James Street, *The Mynster of the Ile*, 1904, p. 177.
[5] John Walker, *Sufferings of the Clergy*, London, 1714, Part II. p. 381, which also see for further account of John Tarlton.
[6] *British Museum*, *E.* 457 (26).
[7] Calamy, iii. 204-5.
[8] Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, Lon. 1714, Part II. p. 310.

the 'Ordinance for ejecting scandalous, ignorant and insufficient Ministers and Schoolmasters,' 28 August, 1654.[1]

After Timothy Batt had been forced to quit Creech St. Michael, he was presented by a neighbouring gentleman to the small living of Ruishton, Somersetshire, where he remained until he was ejected by the 'Act of Uniformity' passed 19 May, 1662, and enforced on St. Bartholomew's Day, 24 August, 1662.

After this we can only surmise that he stayed and preached in Somersetshire and Devonshire, for in 1669, when the 'Episcopal Returns' were made, concerning the location of the nonconformist ministers and their conventicles, Timothy Batt is noted as being a preacher or teacher at West Monckton and the places adjacent, Creech, Taunton Magdalen, Bridgwater, and Glastonbury.[2] It is also recorded[3] that he used to preach near Cullompton, Devon, once in five or six weeks, where on one occasion 'A prophane and lewd young man came thither one Lord's day to hear him, on purpose to make a jest of what he said. The sermon was upon these words, "Fools make a mock of sin"; and it pleased God to make it the means of his conversion; after which he became a serious christian.'

In 1672 we have ample evidence, as shown above,[4] that he obtained a licence according to the terms of the 'Declaration of Indulgence' to be a 'Teacher' of the Presbyterians at Wellington in the Old Court House, then owned by John Norman, and in the house belonging to Daniel Lock.

Timothy Batt had some good offers if he would conform, but he would not accept them. He died in July, 1692, after being blind about two years.[5] How long Timothy Batt remained at Wellington as a 'teacher' to the Presbyterians I am unable to say.

Whether Timothy Batt, the Presbyterian preacher at Wellington, is the same as the one mentioned in the three following works I cannot definitely say, but I mention them here, hoping that some one may be able to identify, or disprove, their connection with the Wellington preacher.

A Treatise concerning the free grace of God the Father, and of the love of Jesus Christ. In which is contained the Fountain of precious Consolation to all the Saints, beloved and redeemed. By Timothie Batt. Printed by T. P. and M. S. for Ed. Blackmore, at the Angel in Pauls Churchyard. London, 1643. Pp. 178. 12mo.[6]

[1] *Acts and Ordinances of the Interregnum*, 1642-60. By C. H. Firth and R. S. Rait. Lon. 1911, ii. 982.
[2] G. L, Turner, *Original Records*, 1911, i. 6, 9, 12.
[3] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.* iii. 205.
[4] P. 328.
[5] Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.* iii. 205. [6] British Museum, 873, c. 39.

The Summe of a Conference at Terling in Essex, Januarie 11th, 1643, held betweene

3 Ministers { John Stalham, John Newton, Enoch Grey } of { Terling, Little Baddow, Wickham } opponents pleading for Infants Baptisme

and

2 Catabaptists { Timotheus Batt, Physician, Thomas Lambe, Sope-boyler } of London Respondents denying

Printed by I. L. for Christopher Meredith, at the signe of the Crane in Pauls Church-yard, London, 1644.[1]

The Waters of Marah Sweetned. A Thanks-giving Sermon. [On Exod. xv. 23, 24, 25.] Preached at Taunton, in the County of Somerset, May 11, 1647, for the gracious deliverance of that poore Towne from the strait and bloody Siege. By T.B.[2] Master of Arts, and a Minister of the Gospel in that County. Printed for Francis Eglesfield, London, and are to be sold by George Treagle in Taunton. 1648. 8vo. pp. iv. 20.[3]

[Authorities for biography of Timothy Batt: *Nonconformist's Memorial.* By Edmund Calamy. Abridged by Samuel Palmer. 2nd edit., London, 1803, vol. iii. 204-5. Joseph Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*, 1500–1714, Oxford, 1891, vol. i. 87. John Walker, *An attempt towards . . . an account of the . . . sufferings of the Clergy of the Church of England*, London, 1714, Part II. 310, 381. James Street, *The Mynster of the Ile* [Ilminster], Taunton, 1904. *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series*, December, 1671, to 17 May, 1672, London, 1897, pp. 446, 500, 504, 518. G. L. Turner, *Original Records of Early Nonconformity*, London, 1911, i. 6, 9, 12, 294, 312, 325, 467; ii. 1102, 1103.]

MALACHI BLAKE (about 1689–1705).

We have seen that in 1672 Timothy Batt obtained a licence to teach the Presbyterians, but whether he held that position until his death in 1692 we do not know. The next definite date that has been discovered is that of 1715, when Humphrey Berry was the pastor. The intervening years between 1672 and 1715 must have been an important period in the history of the Presbyterian Church, inasmuch as it covers the last years of the period when it was illegal to hold nonconformist meetings; it covers the troublous times of the

[1] British Museum, E. 12 (2).
[2] Ascribed to Timothy Batt by Halkett and Laing, *Dict. of Anon. and Pseudon. Lit.*, Edin. 1888, p. 2794.
[3] British Museum, E. 433 (19).

Monmouth Rebellion in 1685, an event in which a large number of Wellington people took an active part. It also saw the issue of James II.'s 'Declaration of Indulgence,' 4 April, 1687, and the Commons' refusal to pass it; also 1688, which saw the arrival of William of Orange and the flight of James II., an event of vast mportance to nonconformists, as under the reign of William III. the 'Toleration Act' was passed, and received the royal assent 24 May, 1689. Under this 'Toleration Act' a great majority of the nonconformists obtained their freedom to worship in their own way—it legalised nonconformity. By the passing of the 'Toleration Act' it became possible for the Wellington Presbyterians to have a definite meeting house and to place their church on a permanent footing.

Unfortunately no definite data has yet come to light to fill in the gap between 1672 and 1715; but, after considering the various evidences that have been gathered together, I have arrived at the conclusion that a part of this gap must have been filled by the ministerial labours of Malachi Blake, the reputed founder of the Wellington Presbyterian Church, and it is quite possible, and probable, that he continued to minister at Wellington until his death in 1705.

Malachi Blake[1] is said to be a descendant, by a collateral branch, of the family to which the famous Admiral Blake, who defended Taunton during the Civil War, belonged. The Rev. George William Joyce, the present pastor of this church, in his history of the Wellington Congregational Chapel and Schools[2] states, 'The late Rev. H. Addiscott is my authority for stating, that the cause was originated as far back as 1659[3] by the Rev. Malachi Blake, a nonconformist minister, residing at Blagdon, near Taunton.'

Where the Rev. H. Addiscott obtained his information that this church was founded in 1659 I do not know. The earliest reference to any statement that I have seen that this congregation was founded by Malachi Blake (and which is the source from which all later writers have obtained their information), is to be found in the *Memoirs of the Rev. Mr. William Blake, late Minister of the Gospel at Crewkerne, Somerset*, published in the *Protestant Dissenter's Maga-*

[1] *Protestant Dissenter's Mag.* August, 1799, vi. 281.

[2] *Somerset Congregational Mag.* February, 1891.

[3] As I doubted the accuracy of this date I wrote to the Rev. G. W. Joyce asking him if he had any information to substantiate the statement. I have not yet received the courtesy of a reply. I find this date was repeated in a short history of the church in the programme of the 'Pagoda Bazaar,' June, 1910, held to obtain funds in aid of the church, and also repeated at the celebration of the Jubilee of the church, October, 1911, so presumably Mr. Joyce still adheres to 1659. Probably Mr. Joyce obtained his information from the *Somerset County Gazette*, 12 May, 1860, where the Rev. H. Addiscott is reported to have said that Malachi Blake commenced his services in Wellington in 1659.—A. L. H.

zine, August, 1799, vol. vi. 281–4. There it states that William Blake's 'grandfather, the Rev. Malachi Blake,[1] a nonconformist minister, resided at Blagdon, in the parish of Pitminster, four miles from Taunton. This gentleman, by his pious labours, laid the foundation of the dissenting congregation, at Wellington, in the county of Somerset.'

Unless further information is found to support the statement made by Mr. Joyce, on the authority of Mr. Addiscott, I do not think circumstances support the claim that Malachi Blake originated the cause of Presbyterianism in Wellington in 1659; but there is a great possibility, and probability, that he may have helped to form a permanent church about 1689. My reasons for believing so are as follows:

The 'Act of Uniformity,' which caused the ejectment of about 2000 ministers, principally Presbyterians, from the Church of England, and the outcome of which was the formation of many Presbyterian nonconformist meetings all over the country, was not passed until 1662. It was quite possible for Malachi Blake to have been a Presbyterian minister before 1662, as Presbyterianism before this date largely permeated the Church of England, and ministers of that persuasion held livings in the Church, but I have failed to find any trace that Mr. Blake held any ministry before the 'Act of Uniformity,' and Calamy does not mention him as an ejected minister in his *Nonconformist's Memorial*; neither can I find that he ever graduated through either of the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, as the majority of the clergy of the State Church did. From this I conclude that it is scarcely probable that Malachi Blake was a minister before 1662. The next important date by which we can make a test as to whether Mr. Blake was performing ministerial duties is that of 1669. In that year the important returns known as the 'Episcopal Returns[2] for 1669' were made. These returns do not mention Malachi Blake as being a preacher, although it returns the names of seven ministers[3] who preached to the Presbyterians of Wellington. The next test as to the existence of Malachi Blake as a minister is to be found in 1672, when Charles II. issued his 'Declaration of Indulgence,' whereby nonconformist ministers could preach publicly if they obtained a licence.[4] Under that 'Indulgence' Timothy Batt obtained a licence to preach at Wellington, but there is no sign that Malachi Blake applied for one to preach anywhere. From this we may conclude that it is very probable that Malachi Blake had not commenced his ministerial work by, or before, 1672.

[1] This account of Malachi Blake is repeated in the *Monthly Repository*, May, 1821, vol. xvi. 263; also in J. Murch, *Hist. of Presbyterian Churches*, 1835, p. 244.
[2] See p. 323. [3] See pp. 323–6. [4] See p. 326.

The earliest intimation that I have discovered that Malachi Blake had engaged in ministerial labours is in connection with the Presbyterians at Honiton, Devonshire. At this place, after James II. had issued his 'Declaration of Indulgence,' 4 April, 1687, the Protestant dissenters 'met in the back-house of one Mr. William Clark, chandler . . . the Rev. Messrs. Richard Saunders, *Malachi Blake*, near Taunton, and John Goswell, of Exeter, taking their turns to preach here every week, which they continued for some time with considerable success. . . . Upon Mr. Goswell's dropping his usual attendance, Mr. John Edwards, a young man from Wellington, was chosen to fill his place, who soon began to discover an inclination to take the whole work upon himself. With this view, he first engaged a party of the younger people in his interest, and then quarrelled with Mr. Blake, who had been proposed for their pastor; but seeing the turn which things were likely to take, he prudently refused the invitation and left them, and Mr. Saunders, the other minister, being called to Taunton, Mr. Edwards had the work entirely to himself.'[1]

The foregoing extract shows that Malachi Blake was engaged in ministerial labours after James II.'s 'Declaration of Indulgence,' and that he took it in turn with two others to preach at Honiton. We may safely assume from this that he was also engaged elsewhere, probably at Blagdon, where he used to live, and at Wellington. There was some uncertainty as to the position of the nonconformists under the 'Declaration of Indulgence.' The House of Commons refused to pass it, as they would not recognise that the King had the power to override the laws against nonconformity by his 'Declaration' without the consent of Parliament; many leading nonconformists even refused to recognise it, as they considered it unconstitutional. In 1688 William of Orange landed and became King, and gave his consent to the 'Toleration Act' in 1689. After this Act was passed it became possible for the nonconformists to hold their meetings openly, and the statement that Malachi Blake 'laid the foundation' of the dissenting congregation at Wellington would probably refer to this period, 1689, when it was possible to have an open meeting house and a stated minister. Therefore upon the foregoing reasons I base my belief that Malachi Blake did not minister at Wellington in 1659, but that we must look to 1689 as the period of his activity at Wellington.

There is additional evidence that Malachi Blake was engaged in ministerial labours, after 1689, in or about the neighbourhood of Wellington. Zachary Wyatt of Nynehead, by his will[2] dated 10 October,

[1] *The English Presbyterian*, Sep. 1834, p. 152.
[2] Brown, *Somerset Wills*, iv. 123.

1693, bequeathed 40*s.* to 'Mr. Malachi Blake, minister of the Gospel.' As Nynehead is not far from Wellington, it is probable that Zachary Wyatt was one of Mr. Blake's congregation.

The question might here arise as to whether there is any evidence to show where the Presbyterians met for worship after the Act of Toleration of 1689 was passed. There is sufficient evidence to justify us in presuming that they met at, or in close proximity to, the 'Three Cups Inn.' J. Le Couteur in his account of this church [1] states that before the present site of the church was obtained, the congregation met in a meeting house somewhere *behind* the 'Three Cups Inn.' He was then speaking of the year 1728. At the General Sessions of the Peace held at Bridgwater, Midsummer Session, 16 July, 1689, a licence was granted for a Nonconformist Meeting to be held at the 'howse of James Giffard' at Wellington. Upon searching the Rate Book for this period and several years later, I find that James Gifford was rated for a house which a few years later was entered as the 'Three Cups Inn;' therefore I think there is strong presumptive evidence that the Presbyterians met at the 'Three Cups Inn,' or in premises attached thereto. Unfortunately, the denomination to whom the licence was granted in 1689 was not entered by the Clerk, but taking into consideration J. Le Couteur's account, and that James Gifford held the premises known as the 'Three Cups Inn,' I think we are justified in assuming that the licence was granted to the Presbyterians.

It is said that 'After the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth, to whose cause he had been friendly,' Malachi Blake 'was obliged to flee from home, and went up to London, disguised in a lay-dress, with a tye-wig and a sword.' [2] I have not succeeded in finding his name amongst the various lists of accused or prisoners charged with participating in the Monmouth Rebellion, but there is no doubt that, even if he did not take an active part in that ill-fated uprising, he must have been seriously inculpated in that movement by the action of members of his family. On Friday, 19 June, 1685, twenty-six maids of Taunton belonging to a school, over which Miss Blake and Mrs. Musgrave presided, presented colours to the Duke of Monmouth. Among the ladies afterwards charged with this offence the names of Mary Blake and Sarah Blake appear.[3] According to J. Toulmin's *History of Taunton*, 1822 edition, pp. 459, 529-31, it was Miss Sarah Blake who led the procession, and received a pardon on the 15 July, 1686, and that Miss Mary Blake died in Dorchester gaol of small-pox.

[1] *Somerset Co. Gaz.*, May 12th, 1860, June 29th, 1861.
[2] *Protestant Dissent. Mag.*, 1799, vi. 281.
[3] George Roberts, *Life of James, Duke of Monmouth*, London, 1844, i. 303-4.

Malachi Blake, the subject of this memoir, had two daughters named Sarah and Mary,[1] both of whom died before he made his will, 5 February, 1704. I strongly suspect that these daughters, Sarah and Mary,[1] were the two misguided maidens of that name who took an active part in presenting the colours to the Duke of Monmouth.

There is no doubt that Malachi Blake was a preacher and at some time settled at Wellington, for in his will he describes himself as 'Malachi Blake of Wellington, in the county of Somerset, Clerk, being infirm in body but of sound and disposing mind and memory.' The term 'Clerk' was usually employed at this period to represent ministers. He states in his will that he had made a 'dormant surrender according to the custom of the manor of Taunton . . . of my half yard of land in Blagdon within the parish of Pitminster and of some overlands near the same' to his son John Blake, and by another dormant surrender according to the custom of the same manor he had surrendered lands and tenements at or near Rowbarton, in the parish of Taunton St. James, to his son William Blake; both under conditions relating to the will. His wife Mary to have the use of certain rooms of his dwelling house at Blagdon and part of the garden, &c., during her widowhood. His 'late father-in-law, John Mico,' by his will bequeathed to his grandchildren (Malachi's children), John Blake, William Blake, Sarah Blake, Mary Blake, £150 each, to be paid at the age of 21 or marriage, which should happen first, his daughter Mary (Malachi's wife), being made executrix. Malachi Blake's daughters, Sarah and Mary, having died, their legacies devolved upon the remaining sons. This legacy of £600 Malachi Blake directed in his will should be charged upon his son John out of the said half yard of land at Blagdon, £300 each for his sons John and William. Malachi also bequeathed to his wife and executrix £50, to his son Malachi Blake an annuity of £5, to be paid by his son John out of the land at Blagdon until John should obtain possession of the said land after the death of testator's wife Mary; then John was to give his brother Malachi £100 and the annuity to cease. £50 out of the Rowbarton estate for the executors or administrators of Mary Blake at her death. Unto his son Malachi Blake £150 out of the Rowbarton estate after the death of testator's wife.

[1] The *Somerset County Gazette*, 16 Nov., 1867, contains a tale entitled *Mary Blake's Lovers: a tale of 'King' Monmouth's Rebellion.* By D. A. Peachey. The author refers to Mary and Sarah Blake, aged 19 and 18, as the orphan daughters of a serge-manufacturer of Taunton, and states that their grandfather 'was shot down at the East Gate just in the moment of victory' when the siege of Taunton was raised and Goring driven away. References are made to their aunt Mrs. Hester Rowe, of East Reach, Taunton, to their uncle Dunsford, at Exeter, and that Sarah Blake after her release married Walter Hammond, son of the Independent Minister of Paul Street Chapel, Taunton. Whether these statements of D. A. Peachey are facts or fiction I have not yet been able to determine.

If any of the sons died before marriage or aged 21, their legacies to go to the survivors of them. All testator's books were bequeathed to his son Malachi, except five each for testator's wife and sons John and William. To testator's brother, John Blake of London, and his wife and children, 20*s.* each for rings; to testator's brother-in-law, Joseph , and his wife, testator's sister, 20*s.* each for rings, and to her four children, Robert Parker, Joseph, Elizabeth, Mary Weeks, 1*s.* each. £5 to the poor. Residue to his wife and executrix Mary. Dated 5 February, 1704. Signed by Malachi Blake in the presence of M. Marshall, Isaac Clark, and Thomas Marshall. Proved at Wells, July, 1705. [*Bishops Court, No.* 102.]

According to the above will and date of probate, we may assume that Malachi Blake died in 1705, and that by his marriage with Mary Mico he had had five children, *i.e.*, Mary and Sarah, who died before the will was executed, and three sons, John, Malachi, and William. As he describes himself as a 'Clerk' (*i.e.*, minister) of Wellington, it is quite possible that he was at that period labouring as the pastor of the Wellington Presbyterian Congregation.

The following brief notes on Malachi Blake's three sons may be of interest:

(1) John Blake. No records.

(2) Malachi Blake,[1] was educated for the ministry as a Protestant Dissenter. First settled at Langport, Somerset, then went to Awlscomb, Devon, afterwards to Blandford, Dorset, in 1716, where he ministered until his death in 1760. He published an account of the fire at Blandford in 1731, and other pamphlets. A daughter married a Mr. Fisher,[2] and a grand-daughter married Henry Field, who succeeded him as pastor at Blandford.

(3) William Blake,[3] a woolstapler, of Taunton, who married Miss Jane Acourt, daughter of Mr. Acourt, an attorney at Yeovil, by whom he had three sons and five daughters. (*a*) One of his daughters married S. Read of Taunton, a woolstapler. (*b*) One of his sons, Malachi Blake[4] became a pupil of Dr. Doddridge in 1743, became a Dissenting minister at Witney, Oxfordshire, where he settled for ten years and married Miss Biscoe. He returned to Taunton and for some years took an alternate turn as a preacher at Fulwood near Taunton. Suffering in health he went to live at Bath, but after the death of his wife he returned to Taunton in 1780, where he died 13 April, 1795. (*c*) The youngest son, William Blake,[5] was born

[1] *Protestant Dis. Mag.* Aug. 1799, vol. vi. p. 281. T. S. James, *Hist. of Presbyterian Chapels*, 1875, pp. 658, 659, 677.

[2] *B. M. Add. MS.* 24484 f. 547.

[3] *Protestant Dissenter's Mag.* Aug. 1799, vol. vi. 281-2.

[4] *Protestant Dissenter's Mag.* May, 1795 vol. ii. p. 216, also Aug. 1799; vol. vi., pp. 281. *Correspondence of P. Doddridge*, Lon. 1031, vol. v. 550.

[5] Memoir of, in *Protestant Dissenter's Mag.* Aug. 1799, vol. vi. pp. 281-4.

7 July, 1730. Educated at a grammar school in Taunton, and under Dr. Doddridge at Northampton, and by Dr. Caleb Ashworth at Daventry. He became a 'protestant dissenter' minister at Crewkerne in 1754, where he was ordained 11 May, 1757. Here he preached his farewell sermon 29 July, 1798, and died at Crewkerne 29 March, 1799. He married (1) Miss Marks, the only child of Mr. Marks of Chard, by whom he had no children. (2) Miss Downing of Cotley, Honiton, Devon, who died 27 May, 1777, leaving five children, viz.:

(1) The eldest, a daughter, died 27 September, 1791.

(2) Dr. Malachi Blake, became a physician at Taunton, and a Justice of the Peace for Somerset. Died February, 1843.

(3) The Rev. William Blake,[1] born at Crewkerne, 29 March, 1773, and was educated at Litton, Dorsetshire, and at Crewkerne. In 1790 he went to the Academy at Northampton, which he left in 1795 to superintend a school endowed by Mr. Pearsall at Kidderminster. His father's health failing he returned to Crewkerne to assist in the ministry, and preached his first sermon, August, 1797. At this period he also supplied the pulpit at Yeovil. Upon his father's resignation of the pulpit at Crewkerne in 1798, he was unanimously invited to succeed him. He retained his ministerial office here until his death, 18 February, 1821. William Blake married twice: (1) Miss Hannah Jarman, in May, 1808, who died in April, 1810, leaving one daughter. (2) Miss Elizabeth Jarman, in October, 1812, who survived him and by whom he had four children.

(4) Downing Blake[2] of Holway, near Taunton, who became a farmer.

(5) Mary Blake.[3]

HUMPHREY BERRY (about 1705-1741).

The next pastor of whom we have any record is Humphrey Berry, who probably succeeded Malachi Blake. He was, no doubt, a member of the well-known Berry family of Wellington. He was executor of the will of Hester Musgrave[4] of Wellington in 1719; and James Waldron, a sergemaker, of Wellington, by his will, dated 8 June, 1731,[5] bequeathed the interest of £20 'to uncle Mr. Humphrey Berry now minister of the protestant dissenters in Wellington called Presbyterians for his life and after to his successors as ministers of the said congregation.' He was a trustee of the estate

[1] Memoir of, in *Monthly Repository*, May, 1821, vol. xvi. p. 262-8.
[2] *Protestant Dissenter's Mag.* Aug. 1799, vol. vi. p. 282.
[3] *Ibid.* [4] See p. 66. [5] See p. 116.

of John Southerton, who, in his will dated 21 October, 1733, refers to him as 'my good friend and uncle Humphrey Berry of Wellington, clerk.'[1]

Mr. Berry died between January and April, 1741. His will[2] dated 12 January, 1741, was proved 27 April, 1741, by his widow Elizabeth. In it he refers to his children Robert, John, Anna, and Elizabeth. He died at an advanced age, and he had the reputation of being a very excellent man, but as his congregation had dwindled to twenty-eight, it has been thought that his ministry had been protracted too far beyond the period of mental or physical vigour.[3]

His son John[4] entered Dr. Doddridge's Academy in 1741, and he was a minister at Crediton in 1773.[5]

In the 'Wellington Rate Book and Church Wardens' Accounts' for 1727 (fol. 254), there is a list of persons who subscribed towards a new 'Water Engine.' In this list appears the name of 'Mr. Robert Berry, Minister' for 5*s*. Probably this Robert was the other son of Humphrey Berry.

Bearing in mind the fact that Timothy Batt, in 1672, obtained a licence to preach in the 'Old Court House' it is of interest to observe in the 'Wellington Rate Book' for 1728 (fol. 262) the following items:

'Hum. Berry and Hen. Wood p Rogers[s] house' rated at £1½.

'Christo[r] Rogers p y[e] Old Court,' rated at £4½.'

From these items we gather that Humphrey Berry the Presbyterian minister lived either next to, or on the same premises in which Timothy Batt had a licence to preach. For the present an open mind must be kept as to whether Berry occupied a portion of the 'Old Court,' for it must be observed that the two items above extracted from the Rate Book show that the two houses belonged to 'Rogers,' and it is an undoubted fact that at some time the premises called 'Old Court' was divided into several portions, as can be observed by consulting the Rate Accounts for later dates.

The number of the members of Mr. Berry's congregation appears to have varied considerably, as can be seen from the following

[1] See p. 98. [2] See p. 9.

[3] J. Bennett, *Star of the West*, 1815, p. 44.

[4] According to a list of Dr. Doddridge's students printed in *The Correspondence and Diary of Philip Doddridge*, London, 1831, v. 550, a *Samuel* Berry became a student in 1741 and became a minister of Crediton. In Joseph Hunter's *Britannia Puritanica* (*Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24484, *f.* 566) the name 'Samuel' is cancelled and 'John' put in its place, in the account of the church at Crediton. In *Add. MS.* 24442, fol. 131, there is a list of pupils educated at Dr. Doddridge's Academy, where for 1741 'Saml. Bery, Crediton' is entered, and opposite it is written 'sh[d] be John.'

[5] *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24484, f. 566.

references to the state of the nonconformists at Wellington. In Dr. Williams's Library, Gordon Square, London, there is a manuscript on the *State of Nonconformity in England and Wales in* 1715, by John Evans, on fol. 99 of which it states that Wellington, a market town, had a Presbyterian Congregation, of which 'Humphrey Bury' (*i.e.*, Berry) was the ordained preacher, and that his hearers numbered 400.[1] In the same library there is another manuscript on *The State of the Dissenting Interest in the several counties of England and Wales collected in the years* 1715-6 *and* 1772-3, by Josiah Thompson, on fol. 33 of which it states that the Wellington Presbyterians in 1715 numbered 300. A manuscript in the British Museum [Add. MS. 32057] *Dissenting Congregations in England and Wales in* 1715 *and* 1772, by Josiah Thompson, states that the Presbyterians at Wellington in 1715 numbered 300 and that the Baptists numbered 106. According to James Bennett's *Memoir of Risdon Darracott*, 1815, p. 44, when Darracott succeeded Mr. Berry, the members of the church only numbered 28.

During a part of Mr. Berry's ministry the Presbyterian congregation continued to meet in a meeting house somewhere behind the 'Three Cups Inn.' They had no burying ground, and were under the necessity of repairing to the churchyard. On one occasion it was requisite to pass through the 'Three Cups Inn' yard, and the landlord then prohibited their doing so. This led to some excitement in the town, the result of which was that James Perry, a resident in the town, purchased some land and presented it to the Presbyterians in 1728 for a burying ground and a site on which a chapel had to be erected within three years.[2]

The land was transferred to the use of the Presbyterians by virtue of an Indenture of Release, dated 18 July, 1728, made between James Perry of the one part and Thomas Pearse, Edward Churley, William Gifford, John Cheek, Henry Waldron, John Musgrave, Peter Bardet, and John Southerton, the trustees, of the other part.[3]

In accordance with the trusts of this deed, a small brick-built meeting house was erected in Fore Street, and opened for public service in 1730 with Humphrey Berry as its minister. This building served the purposes of this congregation until 1860, when it was demolished to make room for a new and larger one.

[1] See also T. S. James' *History of Presbyterian Chapels*, 1857, p. 676.

[2] Account of the church by J. Le Couteur in the *Somerset Co. Gaz.* 12 May, 1860; 29 June, 1861.

[3] I have made repeated applications to the Rev. G. W. Joyce for facilities to make extracts from this deed in order that I may publish herein particulars of the land released and the terms of the Trust, but I regret to say that he has not had the courtesy to acknowledge my letters or to accede to my request.—A. L. H.

It is thought that about 1720[1] the ancestors of Robert Southey, the poet laureate, were members of this congregation. Robert Southey in his autobiography[2] says, 'The removal from Wellington to a lonely hamlet seems to have brought my grandfather within the pale of the Established Church, for he had been bred up as a Dissenter.'

RISDON DARRACOTT (1741–1759).

After the death of Humphrey Berry, the Presbyterians, after due consideration, requested Risdon Darracott to become their pastor. This remarkable man, by his energy and zeal for reforming those who did not live up to his ideal of Christianity, made such an impression upon Wellington and the district around that he became known as the 'Star in the West.'

Risdon Darracott[3] was a descendant of the Darracotts and Risdons of Bideford, Devon. His great-grandfather, by his mother's side, a 'confessor in the cause of religion during the reign of Charles I.,' objecting to the ceremonies introduced by Archbishop Laud into the Established Church, went to America, where a daughter named Hannah was born to him in 1654. Hannah came to England and married Philip Risdon of Bideford. She died 3 January, 1717, aged 62. Of this marriage a daughter, Hannah, was born in 1693, who in 1714 married Richard Darracott, a dissenting minister[4] of Swanage, Dorsetshire.

Of the marriage of Richard Darracott and Hannah Risdon, a daughter was born,[5] and ultimately a son, Risdon, the subject of this memoir, the mother, Hannah, died a few days later, 10 February, 1717, aged 23. Richard Darracott at this period was a pastor at Swanage,[6] and after a few years married again, but this second marriage proved a most unhappy one. He accepted a call to the pastorate of Chulmleigh, Devon, where he died, aged 39.[7]

Risdon Darracott was born at Swanage, 1 February, 1717.

[1] *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24484 f. 547. Joseph Hunter, *Britannia Puritanica*, or History of the Presbyterians and Independents

[2] *Life and Correspondence of Robert Southey*, London, 1849, vol. i. p. 5.

[3] This biography is taken principally from *The Star of the West: being memoirs of Risdon Darracott*. By James Bennett. 2nd edit. Rotherham, 1815.

[4] He was probably educated for the ministry about 1707 at the Academy founded by Matthew Warren at Taunton. (*Congregational Hist. Soc. Trans.*, 1910, iv. 237.)

[5] She married Isaac Clark, a dissenting minister at Bow, Devonshire.

[6] See also Densham and Ogle, *Congregational Churches of Dorset*, 1899, p. 307–8.

[7] Richard Darracott probably died in 1737, as he died whilst his son Risdon was at Northampton pursuing his studies, 1736 to 1738. T. S. James, *Hist. of Presbyterian Chapels*, 1867, p. 657, also *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24484 f. 593, says he died in 1727, but this must be wrong.

When about five years old he moved with his father to Chulmleigh, Devon. Here his early education was undertaken by his father, and after by Mr. Palk, or Palke, a dissenting minister of South Molton, Devon.

In 1735[1] he became a pupil of Dr. Philip Doddridge,[2] at his Academy at Northampton, to be trained for the ministry. Darracott in May, 1736, whilst visiting Hardingstone, a village near Northampton, made the acquaintance, which ripened into friendship, of James Hervey, then a young student at Oxford, afterwards to become famous by his devotional writings. Hervey assisted Darracott by advice and otherwise to establish a society similar to that of the Oxford Methodists.[3]

Whilst at Northampton, Darracott used to preach in the villages thereabouts, and on 21 October, 1736,[4] when preaching at Brixworth, a village a few miles from Northampton, such opposition was aroused that he was forced to escape from a house by a window whilst a mob that came to molest him attacked the opposite side of the house. His father died whilst he was still pursuing his studies at Northampton, but when he completed his course he returned to Chulmleigh.

The pastorate at Chulmleigh, that had been filled by his father, still being vacant he took up the ministry, but ultimately finding that the congregation were not unanimous, many of them desiring another minister to be their pastor, he accepted an invitation to be pastor of the Market Jew Street Chapel,[5] Penzance, in Cornwall. Here he stayed from the autumn of 1738 till the beginning of 1739, when he was seized with an illness which was thought to be consumption. He went to Barnstaple, Devon, to recoup his health, and when he had somewhat recovered he again began to preach.

Darracott occasionally preached at Wellington, where he made such an impression that in 1741 he was invited by the Presbyterians to become their pastor in succession to the late Humphrey Berry. He accepted the call, and on the 11 November, 1741, he was ordained by twelve ministers.

The low state of the Congregational Church (then known as the 'Presbyterians') at this period may be gathered from the Memoirs of

[1] *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24442 f. 128. Joseph Hunter's *Hist. of Protestant Dissenters.* Also in *Correspondence and Diary of P. Doddridge*, Lon. 1831, v. 548.

[2] There was an ancient connection between the Darracotts and the Doddridges. In the register of the marriages of Richard Doddridge's children kept in Barnstaple Parish Church there is the following: 'John Darracott and Dorothie Doddridge May 24, 1596. (C. Stanford's *Life of Philip Doddridge*, Lon. 1880, p. 74.)

[3] C. Stanford's *Life of P. Doddridge*, 1880, pp. 86–8.

[4] C. Stanford, *Life of Doddridge*, 1880, p. 89.

[5] *Dictionary National Biography.*

Darracott.[1] The town of Wellington was not large; 'the congregation to which he was invited to preach formed a very small proportion of its inhabitants. The members of the church amounted to no more than twenty-eight, though their former pastor, Mr. Berry, who died at an advanced age, had the reputation of a very excellent man. Perhaps his ministry had been protracted, as that of some valuable men has unhappily been, beyond the period of mental or physical vigour, and thus had contributed at last to the diminution rather than the increase of his flock.'

Upon the settlement of Darracott amongst them this stagnation quickly changed, and the church became the centre of great activity. He entered upon his ministerial labours with such zeal that 'his fame soon spread, and curiosity drew from the surrounding country crowds of strangers.' This notoriety was not at all pleasing to some of the trustees 'of the meeting house,' who finding some cause to disagree with him became his avowed enemies, and withdrew from his ministry and locked up their pews, 'which the eagerness of the hearers who were standing in the aisles frequently burst open. The opposition, however, gradually died away, and left him without an enemy.'[2]

Darracott opened houses for worship in most of the adjacent villages, where he preached weekly, with remarkable effect, for 'In one, which was about a mile from Wellington, and from the character of the inhabitants was called Rogue's Green, such a change was effected, as produced a change of the name. Drunkenness, rioting, and indeed sin of every description, formerly seemed the only business of the inhabitants. Not one of them was known to pretend to prayer or religion under any form;' but after a time 'the traveller heard on an evening the sound of prayer and praise in almost every house. The place lost its former name, and is now called Roe or Row Green.'[3]

On one occasion, when preaching at Langford, about two miles from Wellington, the congregation became so numerous that he was obliged to stand at the door to afford to the whole company the benefit of the worship. Just before he began to preach, a neighbouring gentleman came up at the head of a mob armed with clubs, swearing and threatening to fall upon him if he attempted to preach, although Darracott assured the gentleman-rioter that the house was registered. Mr. Darracott deemed it prudent, lest mischief should ensue, to desist from preaching at that time, but he drew up an account of the affair and threatened to prosecute, which intention he afterwards abandoned. This mode of opposition was not resorted to again.[4]

His zeal for the work he had undertaken at Wellington made him

[1] *Star of the West*, by James Bennett, 1815, p. 44.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 45. [3] *Ibid.* p. 55. [4] *Ibid.* p. 68.

so well known and appreciated that the original eight-and-twenty members of the church soon found themselves surrounded at the Lord's table by accessions far beyond their own number.[1] People flocked in such crowds to hear him as constantly to overflow the accommodation of his church. It became an absolute necessity to enlarge the building. A sum of £100 [2] was proposed to be spent on this purpose, but though it was only one-fourth of what the whole place had cost for construction during Mr. Berry's ministry, yet it was more than the restricted finances of the congregation could supply, therefore Mr. Darracott found himself compelled to undertake the disagreeable task of travelling to collect from other societies. James Le Couteur, in his historical account of the chapel,[3] says, 'In 1748 the chapel was enlarged at a cost of £56 14*s.* 4*d.*'

Darracott, in his desire to create a spiritual revival in Wellington and the surrounding district, did not spare himself, or allow any opportunities for doing so to escape him. He displayed great moral courage in 1743, when he allowed the famous Rev. George Whitefield to preach from his pulpit, for at this period Whitefield was viewed with suspicion by the Independents.[4] This event is recorded by George Whitefield, who, writing from Collumpton, 25 October, 1743, says:—[5]

'On Saturday last (22 October, 1743), when I came to Wellington, the Rev. Mr. Darracott persuaded me to stay there, because the country people had come from all quarters several times to hear me, and had been disappointed. I consented, and preached in his meeting-house, in the evening, to a large auditory. The Rev. Mr. Fawcett, formerly pupil to Dr. Doddridge, came there, and stayed all night. . . . Sunday morning, I preached again in the meeting-house; and, in the evening, to seven thousand in the field. On Monday, at ten in the morning, and at two in the afternoon, I preached at Collumpton, with much freedom and power.'

Mr. Darracott described Whitefield's visit in a letter dated Wellington, 7 November [1743]:—[6] 'He [Whitefield] came hither, last Saturday was fortnight, with a design of going on to Exeter that day. But we entreated him to stay; at length he inclined too, on which I immediately gave notice that he would preach in the evening, at six o'clock in my meeting-house; and though it was a very rainy day, and the notice but short, the house was so crowded, even at the doors and windows, that at the lowest computation there was a

[1] Bennett's *Star of the West*, pp. 54 and 70.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 70.
[3] *Somerset Co. Gaz.* May 12th, 1860.
[4] Tyerman's *Life of Whitefield*, 1877, ii. 76.
[5] *Ibid.* ii. 77.
[6] This is incorrectly ascribed to Whitefield's visit in 1750, by Darracott's biographer, Bennett, *Star of the West*, 1815, p. 82.

thousand people. Such a crowd, with the profound silence, and the lights we had in the house, made it solemn. But to see how the people were melted all in tears, was more affecting. . . .

'However, it was but the earnest of greater things done on the following Sabbath.[1] Mr. Whitefield gave out that he would preach the next day, at eight in the morning, and at four in the afternoon. Because he would not interfere with the public worship any where; and though it was so early the next morning, there were hundreds stood at the doors and windows, who could not get in. . . . At four, he preached from those words, 'Old things are passed away, and all things are become new,' when there was such a concourse of people came together, that he was obliged to preach in a field adjacent to the meeting-house. There was then thought to be four thousand people.'

This action of Darracott in allowing Whitefield to preach from his pulpit at Wellington caused much offence, and brought reproach upon himself and upon his tutor, Dr. Philip Doddridge, who had also been condemned for his encouragement of Methodism, and especially for allowing Whitefield to preach at Northampton.

Doddridge's chief castigator, however, was Nathaniel Neal, son of the Rev. Daniel Neal, the historian of the Puritans.[2] Neal, in one of his letters to Doddridge, said that 'There are letters shewn about town, from several ministers in the west, which make heavy complaints of the disorders occasioned by Whitefield and Wesley in those parts,' and that these letters mention that some ministers there, 'who were your pupils, have given them countenance.'[3] Doddridge, in his reply to Nathaniel Neal, 12 December, 1743, said:—

'I had before heard from some of my worthy friends in the west of the offence which had been taken at two of my pupils there, for the respect they showed to Mr. Whitefield: and yet they are both persons of eminent piety. He whose name is chiefly in question, I mean Mr. Darracott, is one of the most devout and extraordinary men I ever sent out, and a person who has, within these few years, been highly useful to numbers of his hearers . . . yet I hear these men are reproached because they have treated Mr. Whitefield respectfully; and that one of them, after having had a correspondence with him for many years, admitted him into his pulpit.'[4]

This censure of Darracott did not prevent him from inviting Whitefield or his preachers to preach on other occasions at Wellington. We find that one of Whitefield's preachers, John Cennick,[5] on

[1] *Star of the West*, p. 83-4.
[2] Tyerman's *Life of Whitefield*, 1877, ii. 74.
[3] *Ibid.* p. 75.
[4] *Correspondence of P. Doddridge*, London, 1830, iv. 292-3; *Life of Rev. George Whitefield*, by Rev. L. Tyerman, 1877, ii. 73-6.
[5] *Life of Whitefield*, by L. Tyerman, 1877, ii. 113.

5 September, 1744, set out for Devonshire from Bristol, and on the way he preached in Mr. Darracott's chapel at Wellington, to a 'congregation made up of Church people, and several sorts of Dissenters.'

That his earnest appeals to his hearers were not all barren of good fruits may be gathered from his correspondence. In a letter to his sister-in-law, dated 10 February, 1746–7, he mentions the good effect of his preaching on Alexander Swaine and his wife, Miss Gifford and her brother James Gifford, Mr. Oland, a farmer, and Fry, a farmer aged nearly eighty.[1] And on the 11 November, 1747,[2] he wrote, 'I have been praising God for one hundred and twelve souls, since this day six years, added to the church; the far greater part of whom have been begotten again in Christ Jesus under my ministry.'

Two causes of uneasiness arose several times to disturb the pastor and his congregation.[3] They were Darracott's growing family, which was but slenderly provided for by his Wellington congregation, and his reputation, which attracted more remunerative invitations from other churches. In 1748 his hospitality, which he felt it his duty as a pastor to exercise, caused him to exceed his income that it became necessary to provide some remedy. Darracott at this period wrote, 'Never have I seen so much of the kindness of Providence. He has raised up friends unsought, and indeed unheard of, especially a French merchant at Plymouth. The heads of my people came generously forward to consult, and offer their help to raise my salary. They have already, this last quarter, raised it considerably, and laid such a scheme to be pursued for the future, as will be much for its augmentation. The young people, both men and women, have made a handsome subscription.'[4]

Whether Darracott in the foregoing letter was referring to the following trust for providing an annuity of £4 to the ministers of this congregation, I am unable to say:

By an Indenture[5] dated 25 December, 21 Geo. II. 1747, Robert Pyne of Wellington, Somerset, sergemaker, in consideration of receiving 5*s.* and other considerations, granted, bargained, sold and confirmed unto Nicholas Browne of Wellington, sergemaker, and Clement Waldron of Wellington, yeoman, as trustees, 'One annuity or clear yearly rent charge . . . of £4 . . . to be forever hereafter paid by four equal quarterly payments free and clear of . . . all manner of rates, taxes and outgoings whatsoever . . . at lady day, midsummer, michaelmas and christmas, the first payment thereof to be made at lady day now next ensuing.' The said £4 to be derived from the dwelling-house with gardens, orchards and plot of ground thereunto belonging in the town and borough of Wellington 'between the

[1] *Star of the West*, pp. 72-5. [2] *Ibid.* p. 70. [3] *Ibid.* p. 92. [4] *Ibid.* p. 78.
[5] Public Record Office, *Close Roll*, 21 *Geo. II.*, *Part* 9, *No.* 3.

houses heretofore of Edward Syle the elder deceased now of Hugh Perry on the east and the house late of Edward Lutley deceased on the west And all that plot . . . of ground . . . commonly called Long Acre otherwise Rowes Acre containing by estimation one acre . . . lying on the south side of the said dwellinghouse heretofore in the tenure of John Row deceased . . . but now of the said Robert Pyne.' Upon Trust that the trustees their heirs and assigns etc. shall pay the said £4 to the 'present Dissenting Presbeterian Minister of Wellington . . . the Reverend Mr. Risdon Darracott . . . during all such time as he shall continue statedly to officiate preach and teach the Congregation of Protestant Presbeterian Dissenters in their Meeting house in Wellington,' and after his decease or removal then to his successors in the ministry of this congregation. Signed and sealed by Rob[t] Pine Nicholas Brown and Clem[t] Waldron in the presence of P[r] Southey and Peter Bardet: Acknowledged in the court of Chancery by Robert Pyne 30 January, 1748, enrolled 2 March, 1748.

Wellington received a second visit from George Whitefield, for in the second week of August, 1749, he left Bristol to make his way to Plymouth. Writing from Plymouth, 15 August, he states[1] that 'At Wellington, as I was riding through the town, a good woman stopped me, and entreated me to give the people a sermon. I complied, and preached to a great company; and the next day to a much larger at the same place.'

Whitefield was at Bristol again in February, 1750, and on his way to Plymouth from there he visited the Rev. Richard Pearsall, of Taunton, and the Rev. Risdon Darracott, of Wellington. Writing to Lady Huntingdon from Plymouth, 25 February, 1750,[2] he says, 'At Wellington, I lay at the house of one Mr. Darracott, a flaming successful preacher of the gospel, and who may justly be styled, "the star in the West." He has suffered much reproach; and in the space of three months, has lost three lovely children. Two of them died the Saturday evening before the sacrament was to be administered; but weeping did not hinder sowing. He preached next day, and administered as usual; and, for his three natural, the Lord has given him above thirty spiritual children. He has ventured his little all for Christ; and last week a saint died, who left him 200*l.* in land. At his place, I began to take the field for this spring. At a very short warning, a multitude assembled.'

Whitefield paid a fourth visit to Wellington, in March, 1751, for according to his correspondence[3] he was at Bristol on the 22 March, 1751, and from there he journeyed to Plymouth, where he wrote

[1] *Works of George Whitefield*, London, 1771, ii. 272.
[2] *Life of George Whitefield*, by L. Tyerman, London, 1877, ii. 250. Also printed in Bennett's *Star of the West*, 1815, p. 81.
[3] Tyerman's *Life of Whitefield*, 1877, ii. 270.

a letter, 30 March, 1751,[1] in which he states that 'the Lord enabled me to sow some gospel seed at Taunton and Wellington in my way hither.'

On the 22 September, 1751,[2] Darracott received a visit from his revered tutor, Dr. Doddridge, who stayed the night with him. This was the last time Dr. Doddridge saw his pupil, as the next day he departed for Falmouth to take a voyage to Lisbon to recruit his health. He died at Lisbon soon after reaching there, 26 October, 1751.

In the autumn of 1751,[3] Darracott's straitened circumstances caused by his increasing family sorely tempted him to yield to a pressing invitation to undertake the pastorate of the church at South Petherton.

Mr. Darracott had sunken some hundreds of his own private property since he had resided at Wellington. 'A friend to whom he had made a disclosure of his affairs immediately applied to that valuable institution in London, known to dissenters by the name of the 'Fund Board,' which immediately voted him 5*l.* as an annual addition to his salary. This, with the contributions of private friends, enabled him to extricate himself from his embarrassments.'[4]

This only tided him over his difficulties for the time and at one time the claims of a delicate wife and rising family induced him to think of keeping a school, but this scheme he abandoned.[5]

For some time Darracott had suffered in his health[6] and in March, 1752, he paid a visit to Kidderminster, where his old friend and fellow-student, Benjamin Fawcett, had succeeded to the charge of the church founded by Richard Baxter. Darracott stayed at Kidderminster for some time and conducted the pastorate for his friend and at the same time Mr. Fawcett[7] came to Wellington and performed Mr. Darracott's duties. Whilst at Kidderminster he received a very hearty welcome from Joseph Williams[8] of that town.

Darracott returned to Wellington refreshed by the change after attracting a good deal of attention at Kidderminster.[9]

Writing in November, 1753,[10] Darracott says, 'This month twelve years I was set up as pastor, since which time we have admitted 200

[1] *Works of George Whitefield*, Lon. 1771, ii. 406.
[2] *Star of the West*, pp. 86-7. [3] *Ibid.* p. 93. [4] *Ibid.* pp. 96-7. [5] *Ibid.* p. 97.
[6] *Ibid.* p. 88.

[7] Benj. Fawcett was pastor at Paul's Meeting, Taunton, 1741-5, then he went to Kidderminster, 1745-80. He retained his interest in Wellington to the end. Richard Parminter, pastor of Wellington, supplied Fawcett's pulpit during his illness in 1780, and when Joseph Chadwick, another Wellington pastor, failed to obtain recognition by the 'Independent Fund,' Fawcett championed his case in his 'Appendix to Candid Reflections.'

[8] See a letter from Joseph Williams to Mrs. Darracott, dated 25 March, 1752, in Bennett's *Star of the West*, p. 88. Benj. Fawcett edited *Extracts from the Diary, Meditations and Letters of Joseph Williams of Kidderminster*, 1779. The fourteenth edition was published in 1816, with a portrait of Joseph Williams.

[9] *Star of the West*, p. 91. [10] *Ibid.* 99-100.

communicants wanting two; and this week we shall take in 3 more, and propose 2.' And about the same time he wrote, 'We have set up a charity school in a village four miles off. . . . We have about 30 children on the list. . . . I go once a fortnight, to preach a lecture, which is well attended.'

In 1753 Mr. Darracott paid a visit to Sherborne, which indirectly brought about the founding of the Congregational Church in Long Street of that town. For many years a Presbyterian Church at Newland, Sherborne, had supplied the spiritual needs of the Dissenters of that district, but for some years previous to Mr. Darracott's visit a series of pastors had developed Unitarian doctrines which caused many of the congregation to go to Milborne Port for worship. Mr. Darracott was the guest of Benjamin Vowell, an influential member of the congregation, and Mr. Cornish, the pastor, was asked to allow Mr. Darracott to preach in his pulpit, which request was refused. 'This was the last straw, and the long-suffering people, who had never been satisfied with the mild morality of Mr. Cornish's preaching, withdrew and commenced services in private houses,' several of whom licensed their houses as places of worship, 16 July, 1754. In 1756 a place of worship was erected in Long Street and opened 10 October, 1756. The pulpit was supplied by various preachers until 6 February, 1757, when the Rev. Daniel Varder preached his first sermon there and was afterwards ordained as their first stated minister, 6 October, 1757. This appointment of Mr. Varder is of great interest to Wellington and to Mr. Darracott's ministry, for 'he was a working smith at a village a mile from Wellington, Somerset, and for some time after his marriage was notorious for his wickedness, being the ringleader in all manner of riotous practices, half starving his wife and children by his laziness and extravagance. One Sunday as he was lying listlessly on the ground sudden conviction darted into his mind, which though he tried, he was unable to shake off. Hearing of Mr. Darracott he went to hear him preach, and under his ministry became an entirely changed man.' He studied for the ministry at Mr. Lavington's Academy at Ottery St. Mary, then settled for a time at Cerne, and then at Sherborne, where he stayed and preached his last sermon, 8 April, 1764. He died at Bristol, 30 July, 1764, after an operation for the stone. Mr. Varder also held services in private houses at Haydon and Beer Hacket.[1]

At the beginning of 1757 Darracott made a proposal to the principal persons in Wellington to raise a subscription for the relief of the poor. The subscription succeeded beyond the expectation of every one; and when he was assisting at the parish meeting

[1] W. Densham and J. Ogle, *Story of the Congregational Churches of Dorset*, Bournemouth, 1899, pp. 256-8.

for the distribution of the money, 'he seized the opportunity to propose a society for the reformation of manners, by putting into execution the laws against profaneness.' His proposal was unanimously adopted and 'It was agreed to begin with executing the laws against Sabbath-breaking. An abstract of these was drawn up, and fixed on the doors of all the places of worship,' and 'The chief men of the town perambulated the streets by turns, every Lord's day, to watch that no violation of the law took place,' and 'The persons who were appointed to inspect the town, took with them "Reynolds' *Compassionate Address*" which they left in ale-houses, and places of evil resort.' The effect of this was to cause the places of public worship to be 'crowded; ale-houses empty; nothing done in the shops of barbers; no idle walkers in the streets; but an air of solemnity through the whole town.'[1]

It is recorded of 1757 that the number of communicants had increased to nearly 300 and that 'the place of worship, though it had been enlarged was still too small, for numbers stood at the doors. But this success was chiefly among the poor, for the greater part of the rich, whether among the original members of his own congregation, the inhabitants of the town, or the residents in the adjacent villages, despised his preaching as mere enthusiasm.'[2]

In 1757 Mr. Darracott had the first attack of the disorder which ultimately caused his death. He recovered from this first attack, but his head was so severely affected by the complaint that his labours were much impeded.[3]

Owing to his failing health he administered the Lord's supper for the last time, 3 December, 1758. His illness continued for three months with intervals of excruciating pain arising from stones in the kidneys, and he died 14 March, 1759, aged 42.[4]

Risdon Darracott by his will,[5] dated 11 July, 1758, which was proved at Wells by his widow, 25 April, 1759, bequeathed to his wife Katherine a messuage, with garden, orchard, &c., in South Street, 'lately purchased of John Shattock and Robert Granger.' And he further directed by his will that he desired to be 'buried the fourth or fifth day after my decease, about one o'clock in the morning; and that the time be kept secret from all, but such as are hereafter mentioned who are the only persons I desire may attend me to my last bed. My desire further is that Mr. Thomas, Thomas Snook, William Parsons, Mr. Cade,[6] Thomas Hurford, and Robert Pine carry me to my grave. Let Mr. Varder be sent for to be with

[1] *Star of the West*, pp. 106-7. [2] *Ibid.* pp. 116-7. [3] *Ibid.* p. 119. [4] *Ibid.* p. 122.
[5] See p. 34 of this History, and *Star of the West*, pp. 140-1.
[6] Robert Cade, whose daughter Elizabeth married the Rev. Richard Parminter, pastor of this Congregation, 1767-77. Sarah Parminter, the offspring of this union, married the Rev. John Harcombe Cuff, pastor of this Congregation, 1812-45.

them at the time, and let him spend one half hour in prayer in my parlour, before they carry me away. At the grave I would have nothing said, but let them commit my flesh to the dust, in cheerful hope of a resurrection to eternal life; let them all be concerned to give me a joyful meeting at the great day.'

The funeral was conducted according to Mr. Darracott's directions,[1] but the time could not be kept entirely secret, consequently 'immense multitudes attended at that early hour,' and 'the darkness was dispelled by their numerous torches and its silence broken by their sighs.'

The funeral sermon,[2] which was preached by his old friend the Rev. Benjamin Fawcett of Kidderminster, at Wellington, 15 April, 1759, was printed, four editions at the least being published.

Risdon Darracott has been described by his biographer[3] as being 'slender[4] and rather under, than above, the middle stature. His countenance was all animation, benevolence and happiness,' and his manners were 'graceful yet simple, indicating the man who from benevolent condescension lived among the poor, while he was ever prepared to instruct and delight the cultivated mind. . . . His constitution was not vigorous, and his body gave early and frequent intimations that it could not long support the expenditure to which it was doomed by his ardent spirit. . . . He was gentle and forgiving to his enemies. It was frequently observed of him, that, bold as a lion in the pulpit, he was, in the intercourse of life, meek as a lamb.' A portrait of him is prefixed to the second edition of his memoirs, *The Star of the West*, by James Bennett.

Darracott was the friend and correspondent of Dr. Philip Doddridge, Rev. George Whitefield, Samuel Walker of Truro, Benjamin Fawcett of Kidderminster, Dr. Haweis, and James Hervey, some of whose letters will be found in the *Star of the West*. Many other letters to him from other eminent clerical and lay evangelicals were in the possession of Sir James Risdon Bennett. Excerpts from some of them are published in Dr. Charles Stanford's *Life of Philip Doddridge*.

Risdon Darracott married in December, 1741, Miss Katherine Besley[5] of Barnstaple. This lady was, like himself, a descendant of the puritan confessors who founded the dissenting churches. Her mother's name was Peard, whose ancestor, Oliver Peard, is mentioned in E. Calamy's *Nonconformist's Memorial*, London, 1802, ii. 110, as minister at Barnstaple. Mrs. Darracott after her husband's death passed the rest of her life in widowhood and spent her last years with

[1] *Star of the West*, p. 143. [2] *Ibid.* p. 147. [3] *Ibid.* p. 154.

[4] George Whitefield, writing 7 July, 1759, from Edinburgh to the Rev. John Gillies says: 'O for a hiding-place in heaven! When will my turn come? Some say, not yet; for I am growing *fat*. So did Mr. Darracott a little before he died.' (*Life of George Whitefield*, by L. Tyerman, London, 1877, ii. 419.)

[5] Bennett, *Star of the West*, p. 49.

her daughter, Mrs. Comley, at Romsey, Hants, where she died 28 December, 1799, aged 86.[1] At her request she was buried with the remains of her husband at Wellington.[2]

Of the children born of this marriage, Whitefield[3] in his letter to Lady Huntingdon after his visit to Wellington in 1750, says that Darracott 'in the space of three months . . . hath lost three lovely children.' In 1756 he lost a fourth child.[4] Another child, Katherine, married John Comley, of Romsey, Hampshire, by licence at Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, 22 May, 1765, by whom she had a daughter who married the Rev. James Bennett, the author of *The Star of the West, being memoirs of Richard Darracott*. From this marriage there isssued Sir James Risdon Bennett, the famous physician, who was born at Romsey, 29 September, 1809, and died 14 December, 1891, a biography of whom is published in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, Supplementary volume, i. 168. Sir James Bennett had in his possession many of the letters sent to Risdon Darracott by several well-known lay and clerical evangelicals.

Another child of Risdon Darracott's was named Richard,[5] who was educated under the Rev. Mr. Churley of Uffculm, Devon, and Rev. Dr. Caleb Ashworth at Daventry. For more than twenty years he preached alternately at Bishops Hull and Fullwood near Taunton. He died at Taunton, 23 March, 1795, aged 44. It is of interest to know that Malachi Blake (grandson of Malachi Blake,[6] pastor at Wellington about 1689-1705) also preached alternately at Fullwood, and he also died in 1795. Joshua Toulmin in his *History of Taunton*, 1822, pp. viii. and 177, thanks the Rev. Richard Darracott of Taunton for assistance received from him when compiling his work.

The following works are by Risdon Darracott:—

Scripture Marks of Salvation, drawn up to help Christians to know the true state of their Souls. By Risdon Darracott ('The Dedication. To my Dear Friends of Wellington, and the adjacent villages,' is signed by Risdon Darracott, Wellington, 2 April, 1756, and 'The Preface' by Samuel Hayward, London, 14 April, 1756).

Many later editions of this work appeared, of which I find recorded: 3rd edition, 1757, 12mo.; 4th edition, 1757, 12mo.; 7th edition, London, 1777, pp. xiv. 61, 12mo.; Edinburgh edition, 1804, pp. xv. 68, 12mo.; An 1813 edition, with notes by James Bennett, appended to James Bennett's *Star of the West*, London, 1813; 55th edition, Printed at Romsey for J. Rusher, Reading, 1815, pp. 80, 16mo. 'A biographical sketch of the life of Risdon Darracott' is

[1] *Star of the West*, 152. Memoir in *Evangelical Magazine*, 1800, vol. viii. 333-4.
[2] *Star of the West*, p. 152. [3] *Ibid.* p 81. [4] *Ibid.* p. 105.
[5] *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24484 f. 546, J. Hunter's *Britannia Puritanica*; also *The Protestant Dissenter's Magazine*, May, 1795, ii. 216.
[6] *Brit. Mus. MS.* 24484 f. 546.

appended to this edition, in which it states that not less than 70,000 copies of this work had been circulated. Bath, 1820, pp. xiv. 77, 12mo.

In Bennett's *Star of the West*, 2nd edition, 1815, p. 183, it is inferred that Darracott also published tracts entitled *The Guide to Heaven*, and *Examples of Heavenly Contemplation.*

Emanuel Green, in his *Bibliotheca Somersetensis*, Taunton, 1890, ii. 348, mentions 'A manuscript found among the papers of the late Mr. R. Darracott, minister at Wellington, Somersetshire, 4 pp. sm. 8vo. 1792.'

There are various biographies of Risdon Darracott, the principal being

The Star of the West; being memoirs of Risdon Darracott, minister of the gospel at Wellington, Somerset, with his portrait. To which are added extracts from his correspondence and Mr. Darracott's 'Scripture Marks' with notes. By James Bennett. Romsey, 1813, pp. xi. 172, 62, 12mo. Frontispiece: Portrait of Risdon Darracott.

2nd edition [enlarged], Rotherham, 1815, pp. xviii. 224, 12mo. Frontispiece: Portrait of Risdon Darracott.

Biography of Risdon Darracott, by W. P. Courtney, in the *Dictionary of National Biography.*

Other biographies are also in the *Evangelical Magazine*, August, 1795, vol. iii. 305-9; *Sunday at Home*, March, 1868, pp. 165-8. *The Penzance Congregational Magazine*, 1877, vol. iii. pp. ix. x. xii.-xiv. xxv.

Funeral Sermon. *Christian stedfastness or St. Paul's affectionate pleas with his converts at Philippi to stand fast in the Lord.* A sermon occasioned by the death of the reverend Mr. Risdon Darracott, who departed this life March 14, 1759, in the forty-third year of his age. Preached at Wellington in Somerset, April 15, 1759. By Benjamin Fawcett. Salop, 1759, 8vo.; 2nd edition, Salop, 1759, 8vo.; 3rd edition, London, 1759, 8vo.; 4th edition, Shrewsbury, 1744, 12mo.

JEREMIAH FIELD (about 1759-1767).

Darracott was succeeded in the ministry by the Rev. Jeremiah Field, who on the 4 August, 1763, assisted with others at Broadmead in Bristol 'to set apart to the pastoral office' Andrew Kinsman, who had received a call from a society at Plymouth Dock.[1]

Mr. Field died 27 April, 1767,[2] and his funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Johnson of Taunton.

[1] *Evangelical Magazine*, 1793, i, 55.

[2] Historical Records of the Church, by Rev. James Le Couteur, *Somerset County Gazette*, 12 May, 1860.

RICHARD PARMINTER (1767-1777).

The Rev. Richard Parminter, who settled here in succession to Field in September, 1767,[1] was educated for the ministry under Mr. Rooker, at Bridport.[2]

I have two other references to the education of Parminters belonging to the West Counties. (1) Andrew Parminter, a 'Moravian' who was a pupil of Dr. Doddridge's at Northampton in 1740. (*Correspondence of Philip Doddridge, London*, 1831, vol. v. 549). Of him Dr. Doddridge, writing to the Rev. Mr. Ball of Honiton, Devon, 2 July, 1743, says that he was 'one of the most excellent youths I have ever known, or probably shall know. Were all students for the ministry like him, I should expect that Christ was about to erect his kingdom among us with a glory hitherto unknown' (*Congregational Magazine*, June, 1829, N.S. vol. v. 317). (2) In a list of 'Students in Coward's Academy during the time Dr. David Jennings was appointed tutor' under the year 1752 there is entered, '—— Parminter, an attorney in Somersetshire or Devon, settled in Barnstaple, Devon.' (*Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24442, fol. 141, *Joseph Hunter's Memoirs for a History of Protestant Dissenters.*)

During Parminter's ministry at Wellington there was much agitation throughout the country among the various churches for the removal of certain restrictions. On 6 February, 1772, certain clergy of the Established Church presented a petition[3] to Parliament to be relieved from subscribing to the Thirty-nine Articles, which gave rise to a debate of eight hours. The Protestant Dissenters moved to obtain relief from subscription to doctrinal articles, and a letter[4] was circulated early in 1772 convening a meeting of Dissenting Ministers at the Library in Redcross Street, London, to consider the best means of making an 'application to Parliament to take off the Subscription required of Protestant Dissenting Ministers by the Toleration Act, and to put Tutors and Schoolmasters upon a safer footing than they now are.' An application[5] was made and a Bill was brought into the House of Commons, 3 April, 1772, and passed; but was rejected by the Lords, and was rejected a second time by the Lords in 1773. Of this 'Application' to Parliament,

[1] Historical Records of the Church, by J. Le Couteur, in *Somerset County Gazette*, 12 May, 1860.

[2] Walter Wilson's *Account of various Congregations in England*, vol. iii. f. 10, a MS. in Dr. Williams's Library, London.

[3] Copy of the Petition, see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1772, vol. xlii. 61. Names of the clergy who signed it, see *Monthly Repository*, 1818, vol. xiii. p. 15.

[4] Copy of the letter, see *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1772, vol. xlii. 128.

[5] For its contents see *The Case of the Protestant Dissenting Ministers and Schoolmasters*, humbly submitted to Consideration,' British Museum, 215 i. 3 (114).

Richard Parminter and Robert Day, the pastor of the Baptist Church in South Street 'approved and concur'd.'[1]

In 1772 reports collected concerning the state of the various dissenting churches state that the dissenting 'interest flourishes at Wellington more than formerly as does the town itself.'[2]

On 19 October, 1772, a deed of Assignment[3] was executed concerning the Presbyterian Church at Wellington between John French and Henry Burrow.

In 1776 a Trust deed concerning the repairing of the Meeting House was executed, *i.e.*, by an Indenture[4] made 20 June, 16 Geo. III., 1776, Henry Waldron of Wiveliscombe, Som., Gent., and James Lane[5] [*i.e.*, Lean] of the same place, mercer, granted, bargained, sold, &c., upon Trusts, to James Shattock, the elder, yeoman, Robert Cade, William Gyles and James Shattock the younger, serge makers, and Joseph Pyne, woolcomber, all of Wellington, Som., and Thomas Shattock and William Shattock of Runnington, Som., serge makers, 'All those three closes of ground called or commonly known by the name of Cordings containing by estimation 7 acres situated within the parish of Wellington and formerly parcel of the manor of Jurson otherwise Jurdaston in the co. of Somerset, which premises were late the lands and inheritance of Charles Peter Bardet deceased who by his will dated 5 May 1775 gave and devised the same unto and to the use of the said Henry Waldron and James Lane [*i.e.* Lean] their heirs &c. for ever.' The above-named Trustees to pay and dispose of the rents and profits of the said premises for and towards the 'repairing supporting and keeping up of the Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting House in Wellington aforesaid of which the Reverend Richard Parminter is now pastor in such manner as the Trustees their heirs or assigns or the major part of them for the time being shall think fit . . . for so long time as such Meeting House shall be there used and continued as a place of Religious Worship for Protestant Dissenters.' If at any time the said Meeting House shall be let down or discontinued, then the rents, &c., shall be paid for the repairing supporting and keeping up such other Meeting House . . . for Protestant Dissenters of the Presbyterian persuasion as the Trustees shall think fit, preference being given to a Meeting House in Wellington. The Trustees never to be 'less than four or three at

[1] Two MSS. in Dr. Williams's Library, London. *A State of the Dissenting Interest* . . . collected Oct. 1772, fol. 32 verso. Walter Wilson's *Collection* . . . *for the Hist. and Succession of Dissenting Cong.*, fol. 338, 341. Also *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24484, fol. 547.

[2] MS. in Dr. Williams's Library. Thompson's *State of the Dissenting Interest*, 1715-6 *and* 1772-3. Also in *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 32057.

[3] I could not obtain particulars of this deed, as my applications for information to the Rev. G. W. Joyce have been ignored.—A. L. H.

[4] Public Record Office, Close Roll (No. 6443), 16 George III. part 18, No. 9.

[5] He signed his name *Lean*.

least,' and never to exceed nine. Trustees to allow unto themselves all reasonable costs as they may be put to.

Signed by Hen. Waldron, Jas. Lean, Jas. Shattock, Robert Cade, Willm. Gyles, James Shattock, Joseph Pyne, Thos. Shattock, and Willm. Shattock.

Witnesses: John Broadfoot, Roger Southwood, Thos. Coram, John Tuttell, Richd. Handfast, and Sarah Hill. Inrolled 2 July, 1776.

Mr. Parminter left his Wellington congregation in December, 1777.[1] The next we hear of him is in 1780, when he supplied the pulpit for some months at Kidderminster during the illness and until the death of Benjamin Fawcett, the pastor there. In connection with this it is of interest to remember that Risdon Darracott had some years previously also preached at Kidderminster, having exchanged pulpits for a time with Mr. Fawcett, and that Mr. Fawcett had preached the funeral sermon for Risdon Darracott.[2] The Rev. Job Orton, writing to the Rev. Mr. Hughes, 13 September, 1780,[3] states, 'We are at present supplied by Mr. Parminter, a sensible, worthy, serious man, from the west, who, happily for us, was disengaged. He was a pupil of Mr. Rooker, but has nothing of his narrowness. Our people in general like him well; only those who are fond of the methodists think he does not make noise enough, nor preach so much in the antinomian strain as their favourite preachers do. Our congregation is in a very bad state, and I see nothing before us but confusion and division, if another choice should soon be necessary.' Mr. Fawcett died the next month, and 'Mr. Parminter, the curate,' attended the funeral.[4] It was thought that Parminter would succeed Fawcett at Kidderminster, but he did not please all parties; a section of them left and formed a new meeting and became Unitarians. Those that remained ultimately selected Mr. Barrett for their pastor.[5]

Parminter obtained a pastorate at Ilminster in 1781, where he stayed until 1787,[6] when he accepted a call to become the minister of the Dissenting Congregation at Wiveliscombe, which position he held until his death, 6 August, 1800. Parminter fell down the stairs in his house at Wiveliscombe, having stumbled over a broom left there by his servant. He died three days after, from the injuries received. He married Elizabeth Cade (daughter of Robert and Sarah Cade of Wellington), who was born 19 March, 1758, and died 4 January, 1847, aged eighty-nine. After her husband's death she returned to Wellington to live where her father and mother had lived.[7]

[1] J. Le Couteur, Historical Records, in *Somerset Co. Gaz.* 12 May, 1860.
[2] See p. 351. [3] *Practical Works of Job Orton*, London, 1842, ii. 594.
[4] *Ibid.* p. 630.
[5] Walter Wilson's *Account of various Congregations in England*, vol. iii. fol. 10, 98; a MS. in Dr. Williams's Library. [6] *Ibid.* fol. 10.
[7] Letter from Mrs. Miller to A. L. H.

It is of additional interest to the Wellington Congregation that Richard Parminter's daughter Sarah married John Harcombe Cuff, who was pastor of this church from 1812 to 1845.

JOSEPH CHADWICK (1778-1785?).

The Rev. Joseph Chadwick, who succeeded Parminter in the pastorate at Wellington, was the great-grandson of the Rev. Joseph Chadwick who was ejected for nonconformity from his church at Winsford, Somerset, in 1662.[1] The latter had a son, Thomas, who became a dissenting minister, and resided for many years at Taunton, where he kept a large grammar-school, under whom many men among the Dissenters were educated, preparatory to their academical studies. Thomas had a son named Joseph, the father of the subject of this biography, who was educated for the ministry under Mr. Grove[2] at the Taunton Academy, but he was never settled with any congregation, having been obliged by ill-health to decline the pastoral office, though he lived to his eighty-first year a very retired life, and died at Taunton, his native place, 25 February, 1785. Joseph, his son, who became the pastor at Wellington, was born at Trull, near Taunton, 19 September (Old Style), 1751.[3] He, besides being the descendant of the Rev. Joseph Chadwick who was ejected for nonconformity from Winsford, could also claim descent from the Rev. Geo. Thorne,[4] who was also ejected for nonconformity from his living at Weymouth.[5] He has been heard to say that his father was a man of no energy, and that whatever advantage he might gain from parental instructions, or example, or aid, was derived from his mother.[6]

In his youth he was apprenticed to a peruke maker and hairdresser at Taunton. During the course of his apprenticeship, his general conduct, piety, and ardent thirst for knowledge, as indicated by his love of reading, attracted the attention of John Toller, Esq., an attorney at Taunton.[7] It is believed that Mr. Toller bought Mr. Chadwick out of his apprenticeship and sent him to study under the Rev. Mr. Kirkup, of South Petherton, with whom he remained two years, and made remarkable progress in his studies, especially the classics.[8] Then he finished his academical training under Mr. Rooker at Bridport, supported by funds provided by the 'Independent Fund

[1] Calamy, *Nonconformist's Mem.* 1803, iii. 221.

[2] *Monthly Repository*, 1818, vol. xiii. 89, 234.

[3] For the account of the Chadwick family, by Joseph Chadwick, see *Monthly Repository*, 1818, vol. xiii. 233-5.

[4] T. Coleman, *Independent Churches in Northamptonshire*, 1853, p. 260.

[5] For an account of George Thorne and his ejectment from Weymouth, see Densham and Ogle, *Congregational Churches of Dorset*, 1899, pp. 81, 90, 367, 414, 424, also Calamy's *Nonconf. Memorial.*

[6] T. Coleman, *Ind. Churches in Northants.* p. 260. [7] *Ibid.* [8] *Ibid.*

in London;'[1] and when he left in the summer of 1778, he went 'immediately . . . to Wellington to be the stated minister of the people that formerly enjoyed the labours of . . . the Rev. Risdon Darracott.'[2]

In the opinion of some, Mr. Chadwick seems to have shown a leaning to Unitarian principles, for when he wrote 20 July, 1778, to his late tutor, Mr. Rooker, to invite him to preach at Wellington on the 31st of the same month, when the neighbouring ministers were also invited to assist him at his ordination, Mr. Rooker replied by letter, dated 25 July, 1778, 'It has not a little grieved your real friends at this place and elsewhere, that on finishing your academical studies, you the same week threw yourself into the arms of those ministers, whose views and conduct are directly opposite to one of the grand designs of this academy [at Bridport], and to some of the leading principles of those judicious persons [the Rev. Ministers and Gentlemen, managers of the Independent Fund in London] by whom you was for several years liberally supported . . . you know, that it is my avowed principle, not to join in the religious services of a meeting of ministers with such persons as do not believe, what I judge to be, the proper Divinity of Christ, and that that is with me a parting point.'[3]

Presumably this attitude of Mr. Rooker influenced the managers of the 'Independent Fund in London,' who withheld from Mr. Chadwick and his Wellington Congregation the monetary assistance that his predecessors in the pastorate had received from them.[4] The correspondence concerning this matter was published by Benjamin Fawcett[5] of Kidderminster, and of which the following is a brief *résumé*.

'*Taunton*, 14 *Nov.* 1778.

'Rev. Thomas Reader[6] to Rev. Chadwick.

'Dear Sir,—I received a letter from Mr. Barber of London, in which are these words,—"I applied to the Fund for the Wellington people at the last Meeting, when a doubt arose whether Mr. Chadwick believes the doctrine of the Trinity, which is regarded by us as a doctrine of great importance. Not being able to remove the difficulty myself, I was desired to write to you, to enquire into this

[1] B. Fawcett, *Appendix to the 2nd edit. of Candid Reflections*, 1780, p. 17.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 16. [3] *Ibid.* p. 17.

[4] *Ibid.* 19. See also *A Plea for Truth and Candour . . . in which are some remarks on . . . Benj. Fawcett's Appendix*, &c., Lon. 1781, pp. 54–5.

[5] B. Fawcett, *Appendix to the 2nd edit. of Candid Reflections*, Shrewsbury, 1780, pp. 16–33. Mr. Fawcett in this pamphlet also complains of Mr. Rooker's attitude at his son's [Samuel Fawcett] ordination service at Beaminster, Dorset, in 1776.

[6] Minister of Paul's Meeting, Taunton, 1771–94. Benjamin Fawcett, the author of '*Candid Reflections*,' was minister of Paul's Meeting, 1741–5; then he went to Kidderminster.

matter. No time is to be lost, because the next Meeting of the Fund will be on Tuesday, December 7th. It will give me pleasure, if you are able to remove the difficulty, and I shall apply again with the hope of success."

'I know nothing of it how the doubt arose, but think it will be best for you to write yourself immediately to the Rev. Mr. Barber, Artillery Court, London. Your best prosperity will always rejoice, dear Sir, your affectionate, T. READER.'

Mr. Chadwick answered this by a long letter to the Rev. Mr. Barber, dated Wellington, 23 November, 1778, in which he endeavoured to explain the position to which he had arrived concerning the 'doctrine of the Trinity.' He stated, 'As to what relates to the niceties of human invention and interpretation, in explaining a doctrine so sublime, so mysterious, and so peculiar to revelation, I am intirely of the opinion of Dr. Doddridge, in his *Lectures* on the subject, and of Mr. Fawcett in his enlargement on that part of the Dr.'s *Lectures* in his *Candid Reflections*. In consequence of this opinion, I never make any attempt to explain it . . . I now come directly to the point, and declare my belief of the doctrine of the Trinity, as it is left on record in the New Testament, without the incumbrance of any human scheme. *I* believe *There are Three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these Three are one.* If it be asked, how they are three? and how one? I freely own, I cannot tell. Neither can I find it precisely determined in any other passage of scripture.' Mr. Chadwick then quotes a long extract from one of his sermons showing how he regarded 'the infinite dignity of the Lord Jesus Christ,' and further adds, 'I am not much concerned, on my own account, how they [his sentiments] may be relished by the Gentlemen of the Society. It is a very small thing to be judged of man's judgment. I should be sorry, however, on account of the people, should the *usual exhibition* be with-held, as the generality of them are very poor, so that they would find it difficult to support a minister without it.

'I am, Rev. Sir, your humble servant,

'JOSEPH CHADWICK.'

The foregoing letter was answered by one from the Rev. Richard Winter to the Rev. Mr. Chadwick, dated London, 1 December, 1778, viz., 'The letter which you wrote to my brother Barber was communicated by him to several ministers, who, [desired] that I would write to you upon the subject. With respect to myself, I am so far satisfied, as you declare your belief of "the infinite dignity of the Lord Jesus Christ." . . . Now, Sir, my request to you is, in which several of my brethren concur, that you will be explicit on this passage of sacred scripture, whether you do, ex animo, *believe that the*

Lord Jesus Christ is equal with God the Father? Whether, when he is styled God in scripture, you understand, that he is inferiour to the Father? Or, that he is possessed of the same incommunicable perfections? Or, in one word, whether you believe, that Christ as God is self-existent? . . . I am, Sir, your humble servant,

'RICHARD WINTER.'

To this Joseph Chadwick answered, early in December, 1778, by a long letter, in which he says, 'You ask me "whether I believe, that Christ as God is self-existent?" Do you mean another God, equal to, and independent on, God the Father? Or, the same God with the Father? Or, if not, what is meant? For it is necessary, that I should understand the genuine meaning of the question, or else it is impossible for me to give an answer. Is Christ then another God, different from, or the same God with the Father? Can there be more than one Being, that is self-existent? . . . As to the passage of scripture you mention, I have always used it, till I received your letter, as it is in our translation, which I would not have done, had I thought it was not rightly rendered. I still think the original will bear the same rendering; that is, *equal;* though I am not without a doubt, whether, *as*, would not be the most proper.—You desire an explanation of this passage. I freely own, I am unequal to the task. . . . 'I am, Rev. Sir, your humble servant,

'JOSEPH CHADWICK.'

To this letter Mr. Chadwick did not receive any answer, neither did he receive any aid from the 'Managers of the Independent Fund' as his predecessors had received. The 'Fund' was applied to for aid again by the Wellington people in 1779, but without success, therefore Mr. Chadwick wrote to Benjamin Fawcett 24 November, 1779[1] asking him to publish the correspondence in his Appendix to his *Candid Reflections.*

On 13 April, 1780, 'The Reverend Joseph Chadwick, batchelor, and Mary Kerbey,[2] spinster,' both of the parish of Wellington, were married at the parish church, St. John the Baptist,[3] the witnesses being William Kerbey and Elizabeth Adams, and the officiating minister J. Syndercombe, curate.

When Mr. Chadwick left Wellington is not exactly known, but we know that he was holding he pastorate of the chapel in Newland,[4]

[1] Fawcett, *Append. to Candid Reflections*, 1780, p. 19.

[2] Walter Wilson's *Collection of Dissenting Cong.* fol. 174, dealing with Sherborne, says it was Miss Kirby of Bristol (MS. in Dr. Williams's Lib.)

[3] The Register of Marriages.

[4] It is well to remember that the pastors of this chapel had practically become Unitarians and it was this chapel that refused to allow Risdon Darracott to preach in its pulpit, which brought about a split in the congregation, those that left forming a new congregation of which Mr. Varder who lived near Wellington became the first pastor. See p. 349.

Sherborne, Dorset, in 1785,[1] that he was living in the minister's house adjoining the chapel in Newland in January, 1790, and left Sherborne in the same year.[2]

From Sherborne, Joseph Chadwick went to the Independent Church at Oundle, Northamptonshire, where he was pastor from 1790 until he resigned at Midsummer 1831.[3] He died 7 May, 1841, aged 89, and Mr. T. N. Toller of Kettering (the grandson of Mr. Chadwick's patron at Taunton) preached his funeral sermon.[4]

Mr. Chadwick was a man of considerable learning, and an indefatigable reader of the most solid works in theology and in general literature.[5] Unfortunately towards the end of his long life evidences of an uncertain mental balance[6] made themselves manifest, and one day, after his retirement from the pastorate, he sent for all the deeds and records belonging to his church at Oundle, and then threw them on the fire—this loss was irreparable.[7]

Chadwick contributed an account of his ancestry to *The Monthly Repository*, April, 1818, vol. xiii. 233-5.

JOHN GILES (1786-1795).

The next to undertake the ministry of this church was the Rev. John Giles. He was born at Caerleon,[8] Monmouthshire, in 1758. Presumably he accepted the pastorate sometime in 1786,[9] as he entered the first entry in the 'Register of Births, Baptisms and Burials,' the baptism of George, son of Thos. and Grace Winter, on 10 December, 1786, and signed it 'Registered by me John Giles.' Le Couteur, in his account of the church,[10] states that John Giles was 'ordained in the autumn of 1787.'

On the 26 December, 1792, at a public meeting in Wellington, with Rear-Admiral Sawyer in the chair, an Association was formed entitled 'Wellington Association for Supporting the King and Constitution of this Nation, and for the Preservation of their

[1] Walter Wilson's *Collection*, fol. 174, says 1786-1790, (MS. in Dr. Williams's Lib.)

[2] W. Densham and J. Ogle, *Congregational Churches of Dorset*, 1899, p. 260. See also *Walter Wilson's Collections*, &c., a MS. in Dr. Williams's Library, under Wellington and Sherborne, fol. 174 and 338.

[3] Thomas Coleman, *Memorials of the Independent Churches in Northamptonshire*, London, 1853, pp. 260-1.

[4] *Ibid.* p. 261. [5] *Ibid.*

[6] Probably it was a family complaint, for James Chadwick, who studied for the ministry under Mr. Moore at Bridgwater, resided at Taunton and suffered with a disordered mind (*Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 24442, f. 152).

[7] From information supplied by the Rev. F. Ives Cater, minister at Oundle.

[8] J. Coffin, *Hist. of Newbury*, Boston [Mass.], 1845, p. 373.

[9] According to S. P. Williams in his *Sermon preached at the Funeral of John Giles*, Newburyport, 1824, p. 14, Giles was only nineteen when he was ordained to his first ministerial office at Wellington. This does not agree with his age at death.

[10] *Somerset Co. Gaz.* 12 May, 1860.

Liberties and Properties against Levellers and Republicans.' Many of the well-known people of the district were present, and a Committee was formed, amongst whom might be mentioned the Rev. Robt. Jarratt, vicar of the parish, Richard Bovet, Frank Sealy Bridge, John Southerton, lord of the manor, Rev. John Cherry, the Baptist minister, and the Rev. John Giles, the subject of this biography. One of the Resolutions passed called upon the members 'to use their utmost endeavours to render every assistance in their power, and in their respective callings to support the Constitution, under the King, Lords, and Commons' against Republicans. The opinions and the position that John Giles held in this Association present a marked contrast to many of the opinions he uttered in after years when he was resident in America and publicly avowed his enmity to a monarchy.

In the Register of Births the following children of John and Jane Giles are mentioned: Jemima, b. 22 June, 1787; Peach, b. 19 June, 1789; Narcissa, b. 13 February, 1791; and Mira Ann, b. 17 June, 1794. The last entries made by John Giles in the Register were the christenings of twenty-nine persons on 21 September, 1794.

He left his Wellington congregation at Lady Day, 1795, with the idea of proceeding to America because of his 'strong partiality to the free constitution and republican principles' of the government of that country.[1] But he delayed going because 'the peculiar interest . . . which a little church in the city of Exeter had taken in him and the urgent intercession of his christian friends that he would lend, awhile, his efforts to its establishment and growth, prevailed on him to take the oversight and pastoral charge of that flock.'[2] The welfare of the Independent Church at Exeter, which had recently been erected on the site of the 'horrible pit' belonging to the old prison, and of which Giles was its first pastor,[3] increased under his care, but he left it and went to the United States of America in 1798. He ministered for a time at Trumbull, a small village in Connecticut, and then at Elizabethtown, in New Jersey. Here he was unanimously called to become their pastor, but declined, returned to Trumbull, where he accepted an invitation to become their pastor, and remained two years. In 1802 he visited the Rev. John Boddily, the first minister of the Second Presbyterian Church in Newburyport, Massachusetts, and was invited to supply the pulpit. On 20 July, 1803, he was installed as pastor of this church He held this office for twenty-one years, died on 28 September, 1824, 'after fifteen weeks' excruciating sickness,' and was buried at Newburyport. The inscription on the

[1] S. P. Williams, *Funeral Sermon on John Giles*, p. 14. [2] *Ibid.*
[3] G. Oliver, *Hist. of Exeter*, 1861, p. 193. *Evangelical Mag.* 1795, vol. iii. 333; 1797, vol. v. 339–40.

monument[1] erected to his memory reads 'Here lies interred the remains of the Rev. John Giles for twenty two years Pastor of the Second Presbyterian church in this town. He died 28 Sept. 1824, aged 66.' Samuel Porter Williams, the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Newburyport, preached his funeral sermon on 1 October, 1824, which was afterwards printed.[2]

Mr. Williams, in his sermon,[3] said of John Giles, 'It was not his, to temporize, nor keep back anything that was profitable for doctrine or reproof or correction or instruction in righteousness. His, was not that negative and superficial kind of preaching which leaves the hearer at a loss for his doctrine, or the characteristics of his faith.'

It has been said of him that 'He was a flaming democrat,' and used to pray for the success of 'thy servant Napoleon.'[4]

He appears to have developed an antipathy to England which he was not backward in disclosing in his Addresses, three of which were published. From the *Address delivered before the Republican Citizens of Newburyport and the neighbouring towns in the Rev. John Giles' Meeting-House, on the Fourth of July*, 1809. By the Rev. John Giles. Published by W. and J. Gilman, Middle-Street, Newburyport, 1809. Pp. 16, 8vo., the following extracts will show his change of opinion from when he was one of the Committee of the Wellington Association in 1792: 'England has been, and still is called our parent, or mother country. But, ah! how unnatural for a mother to hate the prosperity and happiness of her children. Such has England been to us, a cruel and unnatural parent.' Throughout the address he compared the condition of the people and the government of England with that of America, very much to the disadvantage of England.

Two of his discourses, which were published, created a good deal of criticism, an edition of which was issued with an 'Appendix' containing the critics' opinions, in a pamphlet entitled *Two Discourses*[5] *delivered to the Second Presbyterian Society in Newburyport, August* 20, 1812, *the day recommended by the President of the United States, for National Humiliation and Prayer.* By the Rev. John Giles. With a copious Appendix. Printed by W. B. and H. G.

[1] J. Coffin, *Hist. of Newbury*, 1845, p. 386.

[2] *The Faithful Minister's Monument. A Sermon preached at the Funeral of the Rev. John Giles senior pastor of the second Presbyterian Church and Society in Newburyport, October* 1, 1824. By Samuel Porter Williams. Newburyport, 1824. From this sermon most of the details of Giles' life in America are taken. See also J. Coffin, *Hist. of Newbury*, 1845, pp. 373, 386; E. V. Smith, *Hist. of Newburyport*, 1854, p. 311; Caleb Cushing, *Hist.... of Newburyport*, 1826, p. 57; J. A. Vinton, *The Giles Memorial*, Boston, 1864, p. 163. This book concerning the 'Giles' families of America contains very meagre information concerning the Rev. John Giles.

[3] P. 15.

[4] J. A. Vinton, *Giles Memorial*, 1864, p. 163.

[5] On Psalm cvi. 24:—'Yea, they despised the pleasant land.'

Allen, Haverhill, 1812. Pp. 28. In these discourses John Giles continued his abuse of England and the glorification of America. On p. 5 he states, 'I am the avowed and open enemy of what is called monarchy,' and he finished his first discourse with a half-hidden wish to see the downfall of England: 'Let us wait awhile, and we may live to see the time, wherein it shall not be said by the voice of faith, but by the voice of sense itself, Babylon [England], the great, is fallen, is fallen!' In the Appendix, pp. 26-28, by parallel columns of extracts from the first discourse and from the works of Thomas Paine, the famous author of the *Rights of Man*, etc., it is shown that John Giles had plagiarised much of the sentiments and copied many of Paine's phrases verbatim.

John Giles is mentioned in the *Historical Account of the First Presbyterian Church . . . in Newburyport*, by Samuel P. Williams, 1826, pp. 39, 61, as having returned some records belonging to the 'First' church.

The Rev. William Morrison, minister of the Presbyterian Church, at Londonderry, New Hampshire, delivered a sermon at the installation of John Giles as pastor at Newburyport, in 1803. This sermon was published.[1]

THOMAS PARISH (1795-1799?)

John Giles left his Wellington congregation at Lady Day, 1795, and his successor, the Rev. Thomas Parish, preached his first sermon to the members of the 'Independent Presbyterian Meeting-house' on 29 March, 1795.[2]

Thomas Parish had been educated at Trevecca, and itinerated in Cornwall under the patronage of Lady Huntingdon. He became the ordained minister of Bethesda Chapel, Truro, about 1788, and remained there until 1790. He left somewhat abruptly, and, having been ordained a curate of the Established Church, he became curate to the Rev. —— Grand, Rector of Dyrham, in Gloucestershire, and at some period afterwards he was situated at Sheffield.[3]

After accepting the pastorate at Wellington in 1795,[2] he must soon have discovered that his call to undertake the ministry at Wellington was not so unanimous or satisfactory as one in his position had a right to expect. A split occurred in the congregation during the first year of his ministry, as the following, taken from the drafts or copies of two letters addressed to him, in different handwritings, disclose:

[1] W. B. Sprague, *Annals of the American Pulpit*, New York, 1859, vol. iii. 437.
[2] Le Couteur's Hist. of the Church, *Som. Co. Gaz.* 12 May, 1860.
[3] *Life and Times of Selina, Countess of Huntingdon*, 1844, vol. ii. 415-16; Boase and Courtney, *Biblio. Cornub.* 1878, ii. 423.

'To the Reverend Mr. Thomas Parish.

'We whose names are hereunder set, being protestant dissenters, meeting for religiouse worship at the Independent Presbyterian Meeting-house in the parish of Wellington in the County of Somerset, having some time since given you our call to be a Pastor of the above Church & Congregation for the space of one year from the Date thereof; and being now sensible of your abilities, and from the great prospect there is of your being useful to our Souls & the Souls of others in the Town of Wellington and parts adjacent, We have reason to believe that the Lord of the Vineyard hath sent you to us in answer of prayer. Wherefore we feel ourselves earnestly Desirous of your Continuance here, Have therefore unanimously agreed to give you another & further call to continue with us and to execute your Pastoral duties among us, And we Do hereby nominate and appoint you to Minister unto us in holy things, not for one year only but for so long a time and for so many years as the Lord in his providence shall think fit, And we earnestly pray that the Great-head of the Church will incline you to accept of this our call and to enable us to esteem and respect you as the Minister of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God, should you, Sir, be disposed to accept of this invitation and continue with us we hope you will be mad the honoured instrument of doing much good, and that you will live to see the work of the Lord prosper in your Hands. We now commit our selves and you to the wise Disposer of Events, humbly beseeching him to undertake for us and to do with us that which shall be most for the glory of his name and the eternal welfare of our immortal souls. Dated at Wellington aforesaid this 31st Day of October, 1795.' No names are attached to this manuscript.[1]

The second manuscript, although in a different handwriting, from its phraseology, bears the mark of having been composed by the same writer as the above, but I cannot tell which of the two was presented to Mr. Parish. It is as follows:

'We the Church and Congregation of Protestant Dissenters meeting for religious Worship at the Independent Meetinhouse in Wellington, having had the Pleasure to sit under your Ministry with Satisfaction & Profit & being anxiously concerned for your Continuance amongst us; see it our Duty to come forward & give you a fresh Call to the Pastoral Office. And as we have Reason to believe that the Lord of the Vinyard has sent you to us in Answer to Prayer, we hope he will not suffer you to Depart. [We are sorry to find that you have met with so much illiberal & unkind Treatment from those who professed to be your Friends; but as they have thought propper to withdraw themselves from us, & have manifested

[1] A. L. H. Collections.

the strongest and highest Degree of Prejudice against you ; we wish to consider them as intirely out of Question, & so long as they retain their present unhappy Spirit & persecuting Principles we cannot help looking upon them as enemies to the Peace and Prosperity of our spiritual Jerusalem.][1]

'We do therefore unanimously agree to give you this [second call to be our Pastor][1] call to the Pastoral Office, to go in and out before us & to Minister to us in holy things not for one year only, but as long as the Lord in his Providence shall see meet to continue you among us. We hope Dear Sir you will consider our situation & we pray that the Great Head of the Church will Dispose you to accept of this our Call, and enable us to esteem and treat you as a Minister of Christ and a Steward of the Mysteries of God. We trust we can say we wish to have the Word faithfully preached, to have our sins & errors detected & to be reproved & rebuked as well as comforted. Should you be disposed to continue with us we hope you will be made the honoured Instrument of doing much good & that you will live to see the work of the Lord prosper in your Hands. Having said thus much we commit ourselves & you to the Disposer of events, beseeching him to undertake for us & do with us, that which shall be most for the Glory of his Name and the eternal Welfare of our immortal Souls. Dated at Wellington afs[d] the 1st Day of Nov[r] 1795.'[2]

Evidently Mr. Parish acceded to the request of those who remained as members of the Presbyterian Church and continued to be their pastor, although the fruits of his office were meagre and somewhat uncertain, as the following petition[3] discloses :

'To the Honourable Congregational Fund board, London. The Humble Petition of the Society of Independent Presbyterian Dissenters of Wellington in the County of Somerset.

'Sheweth : That your petitioners being very poor and not able to raise sufficient support for their Pastor the Reverend Mr. Thomas Parish whose last quarter's Benefit amounted to only £8 13*s.* 9*d.* therefore your petitioners humbly prays to have the Benefit of your Beneficent Fund board.

'And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

'Signed on the Behalf of your petitioners by.'

On the back of this copy of the petition is written : 'This is to certify that the Reverend Mr. Thomas Parish, Minister of the Gospel at Wellington in the County of Somerset is a Gentleman Well known

[1] The parts within square brackets are crossed through with ink in the manuscript.

[2] A. L. H. Collections.

[3] Contemporary copy in A. L. H. Collections, but with no signatures.

to us Who sustains a very good moral character and whose private conversation is agreeable to his public instructions. Witness our Hands the 28 day of November 1795.'

In connection with the foregoing petition the following was also written:

'To the Managers of the Independent Congregational Fund, London.

'Gentlemen, When the Reverend Mr. Giles determined to leave us at Ladyday last, We applied to the Reverend Mr. Parish lately pastor of the Independent Church at Truro, who having spent some Lords Days with us, and being generally approved of, we gave him an unanimous invitation to exercise the Pastoral Office among us. Our Congregation is numerous, but consists chiefly of poor people who can do but little for the support of the Ministry, We therefore whose names are subscribed, for ourselves and in the name of the rest of the society, most humbly and earnestly request your kind Assistance that the blessed Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ may still be preached among us. And the Favour will with a lively sense of Gratitude be acknowledged as by others of the society, so particularly by

'Gentlemen,

'Your obliged Humble Servants.'[1]

Presumably when the foregoing application was sent to the 'Independent Congregational Fund' it was accompanied by a certificate of merit signed by Richard Parminter, a former pastor of this church, for at the foot of the above document is the following:

'This is to certify that the Rev. Mr. Thomas Parish was educated for the Christian Ministry at —— That his Morals are unblemished and that there is a pleasing Prospect of his usefulness at —— Where he now exercises his Ministry.

'Rich[d] Parminter.'

Mr. Parish was one of the original founders of the Somerset Congregational Union, or Association. At a meeting of ministers, held at Wells, 29 September, 1796, it was unanimously determined to meet at South Petherton on 16 November following 'for the purpose of forming the servants of Jesus Christ of the Independent denominations, in the county of Somerset, into a body.'[2] Thereupon, on 16 November, 1796, 'a meeting of Protestant Dissenting Ministers, of the Independent Denomination' met at South Petherton, Somerset, when it was resolved 'I. That we whose names are underwritten, think it eligible to form ourselves into a

[1] From a contemporary copy in the A. L. H. Collections.
[2] *Evangelical Mag.* 1797, vol. v. 117.

County Association: John Crook, Broadway; W. Harrington, Winsham; Richard Herdsman, South-Petherton; J. W. Morin, Yeovil; S. R. Pittard, Martock; *Thomas Parish, Wellington;* William Sloper, Wells; Isaac Tozer, Taunton.'

There were eight other resolutions passed at this meeting setting forth the rules and objects of this association, and were published in the *Evangelical Magazine*, March, 1797, vol. v. 117–18, 'Signed on the Behalf of the Associated Brethren' by 'Richard Herdsman, Secretary.'

At the meeting of this Association held at Yeovil, 30 May, 1798, Mr. Parish preached on Rom. i. 16 (first clause), and he was appointed to prepare the address for the meeting to be held at Martock in May, 1799.[1] He, however, did not deliver the address, probably prevented by the troubles arising with his congregation.

Although the discontented withdrew from the church during the first year of his pastorate, Mr. Parish's despotic methods caused much dissension amongst the remainder during his ministry at Wellington. The friction at last became so great that many of the congregation determined to have him removed, and to that end the following documents were subscribed to:

> 'To the Trustees of the Presbyterian Meeting house in Wellington, Somerset.
>
> 'The Humble Petition of the Members, Subscribers and others belonging to and who attend on Divine Service in the Meeting house afs^{d}.
>
> 'Sheweth: That your Petitioners having long viewed with heart-felt sorrow the present distracted state of our once happy Church, and as animosities & contentions have so many years prevailed among us nor is it likely to cease whilst the Reverend Thomas Parish remains with us, Whose arbitrary and Dispotic conduct here as well as at many other places heretofore sufficiently evince, that he is a sower of sedition in the churches, an enemy to peace and a stirrer up of strife: We therefore earnestly intreat and desire you who are Trustees & Guardians of the s^{d} church that you will by some lawful way & means in the law forthwith remove the s^{d} Tho^{s} Parish from the s^{d} church and thereby restore peace and harmony to a confused and divided Congregation.
>
> 'And your petitioners as in Duty bound,
> Shall ever pray.'[2]

The foregoing must have been presented in or before June, 1799, as the following document, to support the Trustees in any legal action they should take, shows:

[1] *Evangelical Mag.* 1798, vol. vi. 290.
[2] From a contemporary copy in A. L. H. Collections.

'To Messrs. Waldron, Cade, Shattock, Westron, Pyne, Prickman and others, Trustees of the Presbyterian Meeting house in Wellington, Somerset.

'We whose names are hereunto set & subscribed being informed that an ejectment is shortly intended to be commenced & prosecuted against the Reverend Thos Parish pastor of the above church, in order to expel him thereout and out of the benefits thereof which we severally & respectively consent to and heartily approve of, and do each and every of us hereby purpose and agree to advance and pay unto John Pyne of Wellington afsd gardener the respective sum hereinafter mentioned & set down in the column opposite to each of our respective names within one month next after the commencement of the sd action to be by him paid and applied in part discharging the expence attending the carrying on and managing the same. Dated 12th June 1799.'[1]

Whatever action was taken by the Trustees upon the reception of the above petition and the agreement to supply the expenses necessary for the expulsion of Mr. Parish, it must have had the desired result of relieving the Wellington Congregation of his ministry, for on 16 July, 1800, the Rev. Daniel Tyerman was ordained as his successor. It is noteworthy that during his pastorate Mr. Parish did not enter any births or baptisms in the Register, this was done by William Pulsford and William Harrington.

Of Mr. Parish's sermons there was published *The substance of a sermon delivered Jan.* 31, 1790, *at taking leave of the congregation at Bethesda Meeting House in Truro, Cornwall.* By the Rev. T. Parish. Printed by E. Elliot, Falmouth [1790]. 8vo. pp. iv. 36, price 6*d.* The preface was dated 'Falmouth, March 3rd, 1790.'

Probably the following was also by him :—*The Victory of Truth ; or, Goliath slain with his own Sword.* By T. Parish. Printed for the author by Henry Mozley, Gainsborough. 12mo. pp. vi. 48. Price 1*s.* Preface dated 'Gainsborough, May 7th, 1805.'

DANIEL TYERMAN (1800-1804?).

The Rev. Daniel Tyerman, who succeeded Thomas Parish at Wellington, was born 19 November, 1775, at Clack Farm, near Osmotherly,[2] in Yorkshire. He did not make satisfactory progress with his studies when young, and he confesses to having been to four or five different schools between the age of six and fourteen. In 1790 his brother secured for him a situation in London. Whilst in London he attended resorts of pleasure on Sunday evenings, and

[1] From a contemporary copy in A. L. H. Collections.

[2] The Rev. Luke Tyerman, the author of the lives of Samuel and John Wesley, George Whitfield, J. W. Fletcher, &c., was also born at Osmotherly, in 1819 or 1820. Died in London, 20 March, 1889. (Boase, *Modern Biography*, vol. iii.)

received an invitation to spend Sunday, 28 July, 1793, at sea in a pleasure boat, but owing to a dream resolved on the Saturday morning not to go. On the Tuesday morning following he read in the newspaper an account of the capsizing of the boat that he was invited to sail in, and the drowning of its four occupants.

This event produced such a deep impression on his mind, that he became a decided Christian and became a member of a church. Whilst in London he appears to have lodged with Mr. King in Little Eastcheap, in 1793 he was at 26 Bridge Street, Westminster, and in 1795 at No. 5 Church Lane, Limehouse, where he finished writing his autobiography.[1]

Soon after reaching the age of twenty, desiring to enter the ministry, he entered Hoxton Academy, where he studied for three years. After finishing his studies he went, in 1798, to Cawsand in Cornwall, where he remained until he accepted the call from Wellington, where services were held for his induction as pastor 16 July, 1800. At these services twenty-four ministers were present, of whom Mr. Allen, of Stringston, opened the service with a prayer and a reading from the Bible; Mr. Small, of Axminster, stated the nature of a Gospel Church; and Mr. Herdsman, of South Petherton, asked the usual questions and received the confession. Mr. Tozer, of Taunton, prayed the ordination prayer; Mr. Jones, of Plymouth Dock, gave the charge from 1 Tim. iv. 16: 'Take heed unto thyself and unto thy doctrine,' &c. Mr. Morren, of Yeovil, concluded the morning service, and Mr. Wheeton, of Lyme, gave out the hymns. In the afternoon Mr. Allen, of Exeter, began the service with prayer; Mr. Hey, of Bristol, preached to the people from Heb. xii. 25: 'See that ye refuse not him that speaketh,' &c., and Mr. Wm. Rooker, of Tavistock, concluded the service with prayer. The evening service was opened with a prayer by Mr. Cobbin, of South Molton, and Mr. Pittard, of Martock, preached from Dan. xii. 4: 'Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.' The service concluded with a prayer by Mr. S. Rooker of Bideford.[2]

On 14 October, 1801, he took an active part in the Anniversary Meeting of the 'Somerset Association' held at Taunton, preaching from Dan. ii. 44. Mr. Cherry, the Baptist Minister of Wellington, also took part in this anniversary meeting.[3]

During his ministry at Wellington it became necessary to appoint new trustees for the trusts (concerning the support of the chapel from the profits, &c., of the lands called 'Cordings') that were created by Indenture of 20 June, 1776. According to that deed[4] the trustees should never be 'less than four or three at least' and never to exceed nine. Of the trustees then appointed only three now survived, and it

[1] *Cong. Mag.* Aug. 1833, p. 463. [2] *Evangelical Mag.* Sept. 1800, vol. viii. p. 394.
[3] *Evangelical Mag.* Dec. 1801, vol. ix. 491–2. [4] See p. 355.

became necessary to fill the vacancies caused by the deaths of Robert Cade, William Gyles, Joseph Pyne, and Thomas Shattock. Thereupon by an Indenture of Bargain and Sale made 14 October, 1802, the three surviving trustees herein described as James Shattock the elder of Hemyock, Devon, Yeoman, James Shattock the younger of Cayhidon, Devon, Yeoman, and William Shattock of Runnington, Somerset, Merchant, of the one part, granted, bargained, sold, &c., the said three closes of ground called Cordings containing 7 acres in the parish of Wellington, formerly parcel of the manor of Jurson otherwise Jurdaston, unto themselves and unto the newly-appointed trustees, the second parties, *i.e.*, John Lean of Wiveliscombe, Som., Gent., Henry Waldron the younger, Gent., William Prickman, Carrier, Isaac Deacon Haddon, Mercer, William Coleman, Woolcomber, and John Furze, Yeoman, all of Wellington, Somerset; upon the several uses, trusts, limitations, intents and purposes, &c., contained in the Indenture of 20 June, 1776.

The deed was signed by Jas. Shattock, Jas. Shattock, junr., Willm. Shattock, John Lean, Henry Waldron, junr., Wm. Prickman, Isaac Deacon Haddon, Wm. Colman, John Furze. Witnesses: R. Hopkins, clerk to Mr. Southerton, Anna Lane, Jane Cox, Wm. D. Prideaux, and Joseph Ash.

It was inrolled before the Barons of the Exchequer at Westminster among the Pleas of Hilary Term, 43 Geo. III. 1803.[1]

A 'General Meeting of the Somerset Association' was held at Wellington, 25 May, 1803, when Mr. Tyerman and Mr. Pittard of Martock were appointed to preach at the next meeting to be held at Bruton, in May, 1804.[2] In the report of the meeting at Bruton it does not mention whether Mr. Tyerman attended.[3]

During Mr. Tyerman's pastorate William Prickman by his will, dated 29 November, 1802, bequeathed £20 to trustees for the use of the minister of the Presbyterian meeting house in Wellington, and to prevent objections from his family he left the following letter.[4]

'My Dear Children,

Whereas I have made and published my last will & testament dated 29th November 1802 and have thereby among other things given the sum of £20 to certain trustees for the use of the minister of the Presbyterian meeting house in Wellington. Now I do hereby request and charge you and each of you my said children that you do not in any manner controvert or dispute the said legacy but that you do every thing in your power to ratify and confirm the same as you

[1] *Public Record Office: Exchequer of Pleas: Judgment Rolls*, 43 *Geo. III.* 1803. *Hilary, mem.* 15–17d.

[2] *Evangelical Mag.* July, 1803, p. 312.

[3] *Ibid.* Sep. 1804, p. 429.

[4] Original in the A. L. H. Collections.

will answer the contrary thereof at the barr of Almighty God. This from your affectionate father.

(signed) Wm. Prickman.'

Mr. Tyerman did not remain many years at Wellington; he probably left before October 1804, for J. D. Maddon entered the Births and Baptisms 21 October 1804. After leaving Wellington he supplied for a time a pulpit at Southampton[1] and on 25 April, 1805, he became the pastor over 'the new Independent interest at Node Hill, Newport, Isle of Wight.'[2] There he worked with energy, he became the Secretary of the Isle of Wight Bible Society, and was one of the first projectors of the Newport Reading Rooms.[3]

In 1821 he gave up his ministry in the Isle of Wight to accept service under the *London Missionary Society*, and with George Bennet of Sheffield he was deputed to visit for the Society their stations in the Southern Hemisphere. 'The great objects of the Deputation' were 'to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the state of the Missions, and of the islands; and to suggest, and, if possible, carry into effect, such plans as shall appear to be requisite for the furtherance of the gospel, and for introducing among the natives the occupations and habits of civilized life. In order to the attainment of these objects, it is proposed to form such arrangements as shall tend to the introduction of Christian Churches; the establishment and improvement of schools for the children of the Missionaries and of the natives, and, eventually, of trades; and a proper and constant attention to the cultivation of the ground.'[4]

This important deputation sailed from London, 2 May, 1821, on the *Tuscan* a South Sea whaler, and proceeding round Cape Horn visited Tahiti, Leeward Islands, and the Sandwich Islands. The scope of their visiting area being extended they proceeded to New South Wales, New Zealand, and then by Torres Straits to Java, Singapore, Canton, and Calcutta. After visiting various places in India they proceeded to Mauritius and finally to Madagascar, where they arrived on 3 July, 1828. On 30 July, whilst at Antananarivo, Tyerman, whose health had been gradually giving way beneath the climate of India, died suddenly, when aged 53,[5] and was buried there on 1 August. A full and very interesting account of the voyages of this deputation, compiled by James Montgomery, was published in 1831. The Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the London Missionary Society showing their appreciation of the labours of Mr. Tyerman and of their sympathy with his family is printed in the *Evangelical Magazine*, January, 1829, p. 29. This is followed by three letters, pp. 30-33, *i. e.* (1) Letter from the Rev.

[1] *Cong. Mag.* 1833, p. 513. [2] *Evan. Mag.* June 1805, vol. xiii. 284.
[3] *Cong. Mag.* 1833, p. 514. [4] J. Montgomery's *Journal of Voyages and Travels*, [1831, i. pp. vi-vii.
[5] *Evangelical Mag.* Jan. 1829, N.S. vol. vii. 29.

J. J. Freeman, to the Rev. J. Arundel, dated Tananarivo, 8 August, 1828; concerning Mr. Tyerman's visit to Madagascar and death. (2) Letter to George Bennet (Mr. Tyerman's companion on the voyages) dated Tananarivo, 11 August, 1828, and signed by D. Jones, D. Griffiths, D. Johns, and J. J. Freeman. This letter describes the circumstances leading to the death of Mr. Tyerman. (3) Letter from Daniel Tyerman and George Bennet, dated Moramanga, Thursday evening, 17 July, 1828, addressed to Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Johns, and Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, notifying their arrival at Tamatave and expectation of meeting them on the Monday following.

The funeral sermon (2 Sam. xxiii. 5) preached by the Rev. Jon. Jos. Freeman, at Tananarivo, 17 August, 1828, is printed in the *Evangelical Magazine*, May, 1829, pp. 199-202.

Mr. Tyerman was twice married, first in 1798, to Miss Elizabeth Rich, who died in April, 1809, leaving him two children, *i.e.* Sarah Ann Rich, born 15 March, 1802, christened 2 May, 1802,[1] and Charles Rich, born 16 August, 1800, christened 24 August, 1800.[2] The daughter died the same year as her father. Mr. Tyerman married again in 1810, to Miss Fletcher of Abingdon, who died in 1817. By her he had two sons and a daughter.

'In person Mr. Tyerman was tall; strongly made, with an expressive, though not very vivacious countenance. There was always a tendency to obesity in his constitution, and in the latter part of his life he became enormously corpulent. In his manners he was exceedingly affable and gentlemanly; slightly irritable at times, but always placable and ready to forgive. . . . His was of that order of mind which acquires slowly but retains firmly; of more solidity than quickness; a mind for which diligence does almost all, and genius little. Of imagination he was almost entirely destitute, as the general style of his writings abundantly show. His sermons were generally dry and dull, though we have been assured by those who did not like his usual style of preaching, that he was sometimes capable of producing discourses far above mediocrity.'[3]

Portraits of Mr. Tyerman were published in the *Evangelical Magazine*, August, 1812, vol. xx. facing p. 289. Frontispiece to vol. i. of J. Montgomery's *Journal of the Voyages of Tyerman and Bennet*, 1831 and 1841 editions.

The following works are by Tyerman, and it is to be noticed that he sometimes used a *nom de plume* such as 'Philo Vectis' and 'Trophimus.'

An Essay on Baptism in which it is attempted to be proved that Baptism administered by sprinkling or pouring is a scriptural mode:

[1] Registers of the Wellington Presbyterians. [2] *Ibid.*
[3] *Congregational Mag.* Sept. 1833, p. 517-18.

and that the infant offspring of believing parents are proper subjects of this Ordinance. By Daniel Tyerman. Printed for the author by R. Tilling of Newport, Isle of Wight, 1806. 12mo. pp. vi. 7–96.

Second edition, with additions, printed for and sold by S. Burton, 156 Leadenhall Street, London, 1814. 12mo. pp. xii. 13–104.

Evangelical Hope; an Essay. By Daniel Tyerman. Printed for S. Burton, 156 Leadenhall Street, London, 1815. 12mo. pp. xii. 9–236. Preface dated Newport, Isle of Wight, 1 December, 1814.

The Dairyman; a narrative of the life, the conversion, the Christian Experience, and happy death of Joseph Wallbridge, the father of the interesting young woman described by the Rev. Mr. Richmond in his celebrated tract 'The Dairyman's Daughter.' By the Rev. D. Tyerman. Printed for the author by E. Tayler, Newport. [1816.] 12mo. pp. 47. Preface dated Newport, Isle of Wight, March, 1816.

Another edition, entitled *The Life and Conversion of the Dairyman*, was published by the American Tract Society, New York [1850 ?] Tract No. 89. 8vo. pp. 16.

Essays on the Wisdom of God. By the Rev. Daniel Tyerman. Printed for the author by R. Clay, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, London, and sold by Burton & Smith, 156 Leadenhall Street, London, 1818. 8vo. pp. viii. 512. Preface dated Newport, Isle of Wight, April, 1818.

The Importance of Domestic Discipline considered; A Sermon preached to parents and heads of families, December 28, 1806, at Newport, Isle of Wight. By Daniel Tyerman. Printed for the author by R. Tilling, Newport, 1807. 8vo. pp. 43. 1*s.*

Youth Admonished of the Evils of Bad Company; A Sermon preached to young people at Newport, Isle of Wight, January 4, 1807. 8vo. pp. 36. 1*s.*

The above two sermons were also published together: *The Importance of Domestic Discipline* and *Youth Admonished of the Evils of Bad Company*, two Sermons, &c. Newport, 1807. 8vo. pp. iv. 43, 36.

Three Sermons for the Use of Families. I. Youth admonished of the evils of bad company. Second edition. II. The importance of Domestic Discipline. Second edition. III. Religion the noblest Employment, and the immediate concern of the aged. Sold by S. Burton, No. 156 Leadenhall Street, London [1814 or earlier]. 3*s.*

A Letter addressed to Sir Leonard W. T. Holme, Bart., Member of Parliament for the Borough of Newport, Isle of Wight. By Philo Vectis [*i.e.* Daniel Tyerman]. Sold by S. Burton, 156 Leadenhall Street, London [1814 or earlier]. 1*s.*

An Introductory Paper, read before the Society of the Natural History of the Isle of Wight, and published at their request. Sold by S. Burton, 156 Leadenhall Street, London [1815 or earlier]. 1*s.*

A Series of Letters addressed to a member of the Church of England, on the subject of Dissent. By Trophimus [*i.e.* Daniel Tyerman[1]]. This was a series of ten letters published in the *London Christian Instructor or Congregational Magazine*, 1819–20, vol. ii. 1819, pp. 93, 157, 221, 351, 471, 609; vol. iii. 1820, pp. 78, 195, 363, 535.

Tyerman also wrote an autobiography, entitled *A Review of my life to the present time, including twenty-one years.* This manuscript, which Tyerman finished in 1795, was largely used by his biographer in the *Congregational Magazine*, August, 1833, pp. 462–468.

Tyerman kept a journal of his travels for the London Missionary Society, which has been embodied in the work, *Journal of Voyages and Travels of the Rev. Daniel Tyerman and George Bennet, Esq.*, deputed from the London Missionary Society, to visit their various stations in the South Sea Islands, China, India, &c., between the years 1821 and 1829. Compiled from original documents by James Montgomery. London, 1831. 2 vols. 8vo. Portrait of Daniel Tyerman, frontispiece to vol. i.

Second edition, corrected. London, 1841. Portrait of Daniel Tyerman as a frontispiece.

[Authorities for biography of Tyerman: *Dictionary of National Biography; Congregational Magazine*, August, 1833, pp. 462–68; September, 1833, pp. 513–18; *Evangelical Magazine*, September, 1800, vol. viii. 394; December, 1801, vol. ix. 491–2; June, 1805, vol. xiii. 284; April and May, 1821, vol. xxix. 165, 209; January, 1829, vol. vii. N.S. p. 29–33, 199–202; J. Montgomery, *Journal of the Voyages of Tyerman and Bennet*, London, 1831; *British Museum Catalogue; Wellington Presbyterian Registers;* Public Record Office; A. L. H. Collection.]

WILLIAM LEWIS (about 1805–1807).

The Rev. William Lewis[2] succeeded Daniel Tyerman in 1805. He registered the christenings from 4 August, 1805, to 22 December, 1805. He could not have held the pastorate long, for he was succeeded by William Bannister, who registered the christenings on 22 March, 1807.

WILLIAM BANNISTER (1807–1812).

The Rev. William Bannister[3] was born at Portsmouth, 27 October, 1783, of parents in humble circumstances. In his youth he attended 'the Old Presbyterian Meeting-house in Portsmouth. This

[1] *Congregational Magazine*, September, 1833, p. 515.
[2] J. Le Couteur, Hist. of the Chapel, in *Som. Co. Gaz.* 12 May, 1860.
[3] This biography is principally extracted from the *Evangelical Magazine*, September, 1834, New Series, vol. xii. 353.

place of worship belonged originally to orthodox dissenters, but at the time referred to it was 'occupied by Unitarians.' Bannister read McGowan's *Arian and Socinian Monitor*, which convinced him that 'Unitarian principles were not according to the Gospel of Christ.' When in his sixteenth year he was induced to hear the Rev. J. Griffin, of Portsea, whose preaching made a deep impression on his mind, and he ascribed his conversion to a sermon on Matt. xxii. 11, 12. After this he joined the Independent Church at Portsea, and showed that he had a considerable gift in prayer. He was induced to turn his thoughts to the ministry. Bannister was placed in the college at Gosport, then under the tuition of Dr. Bogue. After passing through a course of classical and theological studies, he was invited to accept the pastorate of the Independent Church at Wellington. This was probably early in 1807, as he registered the christenings performed on 22 March, 1807. He preached before the 'Somerset Association' at Glastonbury, 24 May, 1808,[1] and at Chard, 29 May, 1810.[2] He remained at Wellington until 1812, when he accepted a pastorate in Ryde. A series of unpropitious circumstances induced him to resign this pastorate. The church at Arundel invited him to preach to them, and, gaining their appreciation, he received and accepted their call. His ministry proved so successful that after a few years the church had to be enlarged. He retained this pastorate until his death. He suffered in health some years before his decease, and preached for the last time in February, 1834. He died on 8 July 1834, having been pastor of the church at Arundel for twenty years. He was interred in the burying-ground of the parish church, the funeral address being delivered by the Rev. L. Winchester, and on the Sabbath following the funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. T. S. Guyer from 2 Tim. i. 12, 13. The passage had been selected by the deceased pastor. Bannister had married Miss H. Burt, who, with an only son, survived her husband.

JOHN HARCOMBE CUFF (1812–1845).

After such a series of pastors who, for some cause or another, were fated to leave their Wellington congregation after only a few years of ministry, it must have been a source of much gratification to the congregation to find that John Harcombe Cuff, who was selected to succeed William Bannister, was a minister who suited their needs, one that devoted the remainder of his life, thirty-three years, to their spiritual welfare, and who gained the respect of all classes of men and denominations.

[1] *Evangelical Magazine*, September, 1808, p. 405.
[2] *Ibid.* August, 1910, p. 332.

John Harcombe Cuff, the son of Joshua Cuff, was born at Clayhanger Farm, near Chard, 15 February, 1790. He commenced his early classical education under the care of the Rev. Wm. Paul, of Castle Cary, and studied for the ministry at the Western Academy, Axminster, under the Rev. James Small.

In the summer of 1812 he was requested to supply the pulpit at Wellington for a few Sabbaths, and on the 20 October, 1812, he represented this congregation at the Annual Meeting of the Somerset Ministers, held at Taunton.[1] His services were so much appreciated that he received a unanimous call to become their pastor. In accepting this call he said, 'I received your unanimous invitation to the pastoral and ministerial office with feelings I cannot describe. The awful responsibility of a stated ministry has made such an impression on my mind that until lately I had not entertained an idea of uniting myself to any Christian society. . . . I hope the ministration of the word of life since I have been at Wellington has been profitable to my own soul and beneficial to others. I have felt an unusual attachment to this part of Christ's vineyard, believing that Providence has directed me here to exercise my labours.'

On the 16 May, 1813, he officiated at and signed the register for five christenings at Wellington. His ordination service, which took place 8 September, 1813,[2] was begun by Mr. Taylor, of Yeovil. Mr. Gunn, of Bishop's Hull, delivered the introductory discourse, and Mr. Golding, of Fulwood, proposed the questions. The ordination prayer was offered by Mr. Weston, of Sherborne; Mr. Small, of Axminster, delivered the charge from Jeremiah xv. 19, and Mr. Buck, of Wiveliscombe, concluded. At the evening meeting, Mr. Tozer, of Taunton, preached from 1 Thess. v. 12, and Mr. Taylor and Mr. Cherry engaged in prayer.

Mr. Cuff married, at St. Sidwell's Church, Exeter, 30 April, 1817, Sarah Parminter (daughter of the Rev. Richard Parminter, a former pastor of the Wellington Independents), who was born at Wiveliscombe, 23 December, 1796, and died at Wellington 3 February, 1866.

Of this marriage there issued six sons and six daughters: *i.e.*

(1) John Harcombe Cuff, born 16 April, 1818,[3] married Sarah Anne, eldest daughter of George Trenchard, of Wild Oak House, near Taunton, 27 May, 1847; he resided at Longforth, Wellington, and died of rapid consumption, 27 March, 1852.[3] His wife was born at Bampton, Devon, 6 February, 1823, and died 6 December, 1851.

(2) Richard Parminter Cuff, born 4 September, 1819. He was

[1] *Evangelical Magazine*, December, 1812, p. 483.
[2] *Ibid.* November, 1813, vol. xxi. p. 430.
[3] Another memo. I have states that he was born on 6 April, 1818, and died 9 March, 1852.

an engraver and water-colour painter and exhibited in the Royal Academy. He died 11 October, 1883, and was buried in the family vault at Wellington. He will be more fully dealt with in the Biographical Section of this work.

(3) Robert Cade Cuff, born 7 April, 1821; married Ellen Evans at the parish church at Bridgwater, 18 October, 1850; died 4 July, 1894, at Portishead. His wife was born at Bridgwater, 28 February, 1826, and died at Bristol, 21 April, 1874.

(4) Downing Hosch Cuff, born 28 October, 1822; died 31 October, 1823; buried 4 November, 1823, at Wellington.

(5) Elizabeth Downing Cuff, born 21 May, 1824; married John Fry at Cannon Street Chapel, Preston, Lancashire, 12 October, 1853; and died 17 May, 1861. Her husband was born at Woodgate, Devon, 5 September, 1812, and died 22 October, 1869.

(6) William Hosch Cuff, born 14 August, 1826; died 15 January, 1894.

(7) Thomas Jarman Cuff, born 18 May, 1828; married Catherine de Courcy Sims Brooking, at Hampstead, 3 September, 1857; died 3 February, 1905.

(8) Sarah Hosch Cuff, born 21 March, 1830; died 2 March, 1858, at Wellington. The obituary notice in the *Somerset County Gazette*, 6 March, 1858, states that 'She was of a very retiring disposition, but made it the great object of life, frequently at the sacrifice of private feeling, to employ all the means at her command for the conversion of souls.'

(9) Sophia Cuff, born 17 September, 1832; married Edward Miller, at the Junction Road Chapel, London, 6 March, 1877. In 1911 she was living at 9 North Avenue, Polsloe Road, Exeter. Her husband was born in London, 20 October, 1814, and died 28 May, 1905. Mrs. Miller has very kindly supplied me with memoranda concerning this family of Cuff.

(10) Phoebe Cuff, born 17 January, 1835; died 30 December, 1873.

(11) Julia Cuff, born 18 January, 1838; died 12 February, 1869.

(12) Anna Maria Cuff, born 12 November, 1840; married Henry Herbert Cox at Wellington, 13 June, 1866. She was living 5 July, 1909.

Mr. Cuff enjoyed good health throughout his life, so that his death when it arrived 29 October, 1845, caused a great shock to the people of Wellington. On Saturday, 25 October, he called upon his medical friend and intimated that he had taken a slight chill. On the Monday following he said he felt quite well except for a little difficulty in breathing. On Tuesday, 28 October, he wanted to get up but was advised to stay in bed. In the course of that evening alarming symptoms developed and soon after midnight he expired.

The interment took place on Friday, 7 November. The shops in the town were almost universally closed, and crowds of people 'of every class and denomination, regardless of the heavily descending rain, accompanied the procession.' The service was conducted by the Rev. John Allen,[1] of Chudleigh, whom Mr. Cuff had formerly admitted a member of the church at Wellington and subsequently introduced to the work of the ministry.[2] The funeral sermon was preached on the following Sabbath by the Rev. Dr. Payne, from Psalm xxxvii. 37: 'Mark the perfect man,' &c.

The writer of his obituary in the *Evangelical Magazine*[3] says that 'During the long period of Mr. Cuff's ministry the greatest unanimity prevailed between himself and the people of his charge; indeed, he was highly esteemed and respected by men of every class and denomination. His heart, his hand, and his purse were always ready for every work of charity and benevolence. With the exception of some slight attacks of gout, he enjoyed almost uninterrupted good health; so that it is believed only one sabbath occurred during the whole of his pastorate in which he was prevented by illness from performing the function of his office.'

That his pastorate was no sinecure is amply shown by the Rev. G. W. Joyce,[4] who says that during Mr. Cuff's pastorate 'there was an afternoon service at 2.30, and what may be noted as almost unique, there was a united service every Sunday evening, held alternately at the Independent and Baptist Chapels. This arrangement allowed Mr. Cuff to preach once a fortnight in one of the chapels or rooms of our denomination at Wrangway, Langford, East Nynehead, Ford Street, and Five Houses. Of these,' says Mr. Joyce in 1891, 'from some cause, unknown to myself, we only retain Wrangway, where we have a new chapel, in which a morning Sunday-school is conducted, and a service in the afternoon is held. Mr. Cuff also preached every Thursday evening at Rockwell Green.'

A mural tablet to Mr. Cuff's memory is placed on the southern wall of the chapel, near the pulpit.[5]

A portrait of Mr. Cuff was published after his death; it was drawn and engraved by his son Richard Parminter Cuff, a copy of

[1] Biog. of John Allen. See *Congregational Year Book*, 1885, p. 174. He will also be dealt with in the Biographical Section of this work.

[2] *Evangelical Mag.* Aug. 1847, p. 403.

[3] *Ibid.* 402.

[4] *Somerset Cong. Mag.* Feb. 1891.

[5] 'Sacred to the memory of the Rev. John Harcombe Cuff, who departed this life 29th October, 1845, aged 55 years. This Tablet was erected by the Church and Congregation worshipping in this place as a token of the great respect and esteem which they entertained towards their beloved Minister, who for more than 33 years faithfully and successfully discharged his pastoral duties amongst them, and in his private and public life afforded a practical illustration of the Great Truths of the Christian Religion. Mark the perfect man and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. Psalm 37, verse 37.'

which I have in my collection. It is inscribed, 'Rev. John H. Cuff' for more than 33 years pastor of the Independent Church, Wellington, Somerset. Died Oct. 25, 1845, aged 55 years.'

Mr. Cuff' kept a journal during his residence at Wellington in which he entered interesting local events and particulars of meetings which he attended. I have not seen the journal, and I am indebted to his daughter Sophia Miller for the following interesting extracts from it. As an introduction to the extracts, the following account of the journal kindly communicated in a letter to me by Mrs. Miller in 1891 is of exceptional interest.

'*The Strand, Topsham, Devon*, 19 *Janry* 1891.

'Our former minister Mr. Courtnall a few months before he left Well[n] [Wellington], drew my attention to the loss of some of the Church Records belonging to the Cong[l]. Body there & feeling certain I had formerly in my mother's lifetime seen a Journal of my dear Father's with a private copy of the Church-roll at the end of the book I subsequently looked through with my brother his Papers &c. and my brother has lent me the Book to take extracts from. Of course as it is a private journal only (not a Diary) I could not part with it, but must return it to the Exors. under my dear Mother's will.

'To my disappointment I find that the journal commences with the year 1829, and my father began his ministry at Well[n] [Wellington] in June 1812, and was ordained there in Jany. 1813.[1]

* * * *

'My father put in the margin of his quarto book daily—the weather. Every person he visited in illness or for religious conversation, every meeting public private or religious—united (Baptist & Ind[t]) Missionary Prayer meetings & every one who engaged in prayer —every one he interred—for Mr Baynes[2] or for himself (Mr. B. never dared officiate on such occasions on account of his health) every Sabbath's services & texts, at home or in the country—every national event &c. & how celebrated at Well[n] [Wellington].

'At the end of the Book is a private record of every one he admitted to the Church so that I can complete the Church Roll for the Well[ington] Cong[l]. Church.

'Sophia Miller.'

[*Extracts from the Journal kept by the* Rev. John Harcombe Cuff.]

1830. April 3. Called on Revd. J. Baynes to arrange respecting the keeping of Good Friday as a day for Special Prayer.

[1] *Evangelical Mag.* Nov. 1813, p. 430, says '8 Sept. 1813.'
[2] Rev. J. Baynes, pastor of the South St. Baptist Chapel.

April 9. *Good Friday.* Kept the day as a season of Special Prayer for the influence of the Holy Spirit. Public Service in the morning at Lower Meeting Chapel. Messrs. Cuff and Horsey engaged in prayer. Revd. J. Baynes delivered the address. In the afternoon at Mr. Baynes' chapel. 2 members of the respective congregations prayed. I delivered the address. In the evening the preparatory service for the Lord's Supper was held at my chapel, when John Stradling was received a member of the Christian Church under my care. The day was profitable.

1831. April 28. Wrote notices for a meeting of the Anti-Slavery Committee.

April 29. Attended Anti-Slavery Meeting at Mr. Charles Fox's. Accompanied him to obtain signatures to Declaration, &c.

Sept. 4. Preached 3 times in my chapel. In the afternoon, a thanksgiving sermon from 100 Psalm 4–5 verses, wherein notice was taken of the late bountiful harvest, the very propitious season for its ingathering, the preservation of the country hitherto from the Indian Plague now raging in the North of Europe, whilst the Lord has spoken to us in the Epidemic that has almost universally prevailed in Britain, in accents of gentleness. The blessing of Civil and Religious Liberty was adverted to, and our Religious advantages. I found it a season of refreshing.

Nov. 9. Special prayer meeting for Nation respecting Indian Cholera.

Nov. 24. Held Special prayer meeting on account of Indian Cholera at Baptist Chapel.

1832. March 21. General Fast on account of the Indian Plague. A prayer meeting at ½ past 7 a.m. at my chapel. Attendance very large. At ½ past 10 o'clock the Baptist & Lower Meeting Congregations united in worship at the Higher Meeting, Mr. Baynes preached. In the evening the congregations assembled at the Lower Meeting when I officiated. The attendance at both places was very large, and the apparent impression considerable.

May 9. Attended special Prayer Meeting respecting our Nation at the Baptist Chapel.

August 1. Meeting relative to the increase of the cholera.

August 29. United special Prayer Meeting on account of the cholera held at the Baptist Chapel. Henry Coles, Mr. Winton, & self engaged.

Nov. 14. Revd. W. P. Thomas called on me to arrange about a day of thanksgiving relative to the cholera.

Nov. 21. Thanksgiving day as to the cholera. I preached in the evening.

Dec. 29. Called on Mr. Jarratt (vicar of Wellington) to solicit the use of his School Room for Mr. Hoskins to deliver

a Lecture on Slavery, and wrote to Taunton to arrange about a visit.

1833. September 1. Mr. Wilson, missionary to the Sunday School Union, preached to the children & parents of my Sabbath School in the morning, and to parents and teachers in the evening. Mr. Wilson preached at the Baptist Chapel in the afternoon.

Sept. 2. Attended Mr. Wilson's lecture on the progress of Sunday Schools.

Sept. 3. Attended lecture in the evening by Mr. Wilson on the collective system of teaching.

Sept. 4. Met teachers in the evening and spent the day with Mr. Wilson at Mr. Pyne's.

1834. August 1. The day was one of the most glorious that has ever shined on Britain. With its morn the fetters of 800,000 British Colonial Slaves were struck off.

This day was religiously observed by the Dissenters generally. Separate Prayer Meetings were held in my chapel and the Baptists at 7 a.m. in the morning. In the afternoon the Congregations united and the sermon was preached in the Baptist Chapel by the Revd. J. Baynes, 118 Psalm 25, 'Save now Lord,' &c. The general prayer was offered by myself. In the evening the Congregations met at my chapel when I preached from 12 Eze. 42 (?), and Mr. Baynes prayed.

Special services were also held at the Methodist Chapel, and the season was delightful. Mr. Besley & John Tottle engaged at the morning prayer meeting.

August 7. Prepared Notice for Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society.

August 8. Attended final meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society.

Oct. 22. On the evening of this day the Town of Wellington was first lighted with gas.

1835. June 10. Attended this morning the meeting of the Baptist Association held in Wellington. A sermon was read by Revd. May, 'For this thing I will be enquired of,' &c., and the Association Letter was read by Revd. Mr. Coombes of Taunton.

Octr. 4. This day was kept by many with grateful recollections &c., as three hundred years ago the Holy Bible was first printed in the English Language. Translated by Miles Coverdale and Tyndale. With the attempt to improve so memorable an event, I preached in the morning & afternoon in my chapel, from 17 Acts 11, 'The noble Bereans.' In the evening I preached at Bradford about 2 miles and a half from Wellington from 10 Rom. 17.—was much favored.

1837. June 23. Attended the Proclamation of Queen Victoria. Met in the Town Hall, Wellington. Revd. W. Procter Thomas, Magistrate &c. read the Proclamation; a procession formed. Revd.

R. Jarratt[1] and 2 curates walked first, but left after the first Proclamation. Myself, Revd. J. Baynes and Mr. Silvanus Fox next. Inhabitants 3 by 3 &c.

July 8. This being the day appointed for the interment of our late beloved King, William IV., the shops were closed all day generally. I preached in the morning from 2 Dan. 21, 'He removeth and setteth up Kings,' &c. In the afternoon Mr. Hawkings at the Baptist Chapel. In the evening, service at Newton &c.

July 14. Sent the Baptismal & Burial Registers[2] to London &c.

1838. April 28. Attended Anti-Slavery meeting in our Town Hall. Mr. Thompson presided.

June 5. Officiated at the marriage of John Jones and Powell, being the first wedding amongst the Protestant Dissenters in Wellington since the new Act. Much attention was excited.

June 28. Day of Coronation of Queen Victoria, great festivity at Wellington. Procession &c. Held prayer meeting at ½ past 6. Preached at Row Green in the evening from 5 Dan. 19 verse.

August 1. This day Negro Apprenticeship was allowed in the West Indies by many of the Colonial Governments. In the evening we held a meeting for Thanksgiving. Messrs. Prideaux, Collard, Baynes, & Cuff prayed. A pleasant season.

1839. Jan. 5. Baptists called & held a Revival Meeting. I gave up Teachers' Prayer Meeting. Three services and prayers by ministers, each keeping in view the particular object of intercession. Revd. Coombes preached in the afternoon, and six addresses were delivered in the evening. Good services in interest, and I hope beneficial.

May 1. Plymouth Brethren preached in the Town Hall for the first time this evening.

July 15. Held special prayer meeting for the Madagascar Mission. James Stradling, Wm. Pulsford, senr., & Mr. Collard engaged.

Sept. 3. The Somerset Association for Foreign Missions was held in my chapel this day. Revd. Matthew Hodge (Wiveliscombe) preached in the morning. Public meeting in the afternoon. Messrs. Luke, Davis, & Thompson, Esq., engaged. In the evening, Revd. Crisp, missionary from India, preached. Collections Fifteen Guineas.

1840. Jan. 20. A terrific thunder storm about 5.30 this morning. A tree shivered near Sandy Lane, many struck temporarily.

Feb. 4. To-day was held Meetings at the Baptist Chapel for Revival of Religion. I attended morning and evening. Morning prayers by Ministers. In the afternoon Mr. Thomas of Bampton preached. Evening, addresses & prayers by Ministers.

[1] Vicar of the Parish. [2] See p. 405.

Feb. 8. Called on Mr. Pyne, Mr. Collard, Mr. Horsey, about Petition for Thorogood.

Feb. 10. Queen Victoria married.

March 4. Sent off Petition for Thorogood.

1841. June 14. Presentation of Plate to Revd. R. Jarratt, having preached 50 years in Wellington.

1842. May 18. Attended Baptist Association morning and afternoon.

1843. Jan. 10. A dreadful thunder storm, much damage done at Mrs. Culme's (afterwards Mrs. Thomas Fox's—Court House).

May 20. Called on Mr. Baynes & Horsey about Petition on Education Bill &c.

1845. May 25. My chapel shut up for repairs.

In addition to the foregoing the following extracts from Mr. Cuff's Journal were published by the Rev. G. W. Joyce in the *Somerset Congregational Magazine*, February, 1891 :

1839. East Nynehead.

March 17. Two services in my chapel. Rev. Chapman Davis preached in the morning.

In the evening preached for the first time at East Nynehead, from 2 Cor. iv. 13. 'We also believe, and therefore speak.' An overflowing congregation.

April 26. Accompanied Mr. Collard to Mr. Rowland's, in the morning, to consult about erecting a place of worship at East Nynehead.

May 8. Arranged with Mr. Rowland about building Nynehead Chapel.

Oct. 1. Went with Mr. Collard and Mr. Bidgood to Nynehead Chapel.

Oct. 7. Went to Taunton and arranged about the opening of Nynehead Chapel.

Oct. 8. Engaged in making arrangements about preparing Chapel at Nynehead.

Oct 14. Wrote particulars for registering the new Chapel at Nynehead.

Oct. 15. Heavy showers. On this day Nynehead Chapel was opened. Three sermons were preached. In the morning by Rev. Davis (Taunton), 'Great Salvation.'

In the afternoon, Rev. M. Hodge (Wiveliscombe), 'Every eye hall see Him.'

In the evening, Rev. James Taylor, from 'My word shall not return unto me void.'

Rev. William Gammon, in the room, from 'If any man thirst, etc.

Attendance large. Collections nearly 6*l*.

1840. Ford Street.

July 5. Preached twice in my Chapel, administered the Lord's Supper, and preached at Ford Street for the first time, in the evening, from Isaiah xlv. 22. 'Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else.'

July 22. Called on Mr. Baynes, Mr. Horsey, etc., about Ford Street Chapel.

July 25. Wrote to Mr. Hodge (Rev. Matthew Hodge, Wiveliscombe), about preaching at Ford Street, for licence for Chapel, etc.

July 30. Fine day. Ford Street Chapel opened to-day. Three services. Rev. R. Winton preached in the morning at the Chapel. Rev. Mr. May, in the afternoon, at the Chapel. Mr. Winton in the cottage. Rev. Mr. Hodge in the evening. At cottage, J. H. Cuff. The ministers dined at Mr. Waldron's (Bidlands). Public tea at Mr. Turpin's.

In 1815 a gallery was erected in the Fore Street chapel for the accommodation of the Sunday School at a cost of 57*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, and in 1829 Sunday School rooms were built.

In August, 1837, the chapel then known as the 'Independent Chapel,' was registered for solemnizing marriages therein pursuant to the Act 6 and 7 William IV. chap. 85 (*London Gazette*, 25 *August*, 1837, p. 2252). According to Mr. Cuff's 'Journal' the first marriage to be celebrated was that of John Jones and . . . Powell, 5 June, 1838.

Several 'Trust' deeds concerning the chapel and its congregation were executed during Mr. Cuff's tenure of the pastorate, abstracts of which are hereafter given :

Trust deeds executed during Mr. Cuff's pastorate.

I.

Indenture, 31 August, 1815. William Kinglake of Taunton, Somerset, gentleman, of the first part, for £10 granted sold, etc., unto John Lean of Wiveliscombe, Som. mercer, Isaac Deacon Haddon of Wellington, shopkeeper, William Colman of Wellington, woolcomber, Henry Waldron of Wellington, gentleman, and John Furze of Wellington, yeomen, the second parties, 'a plot of ground containing about ten perches at the south west end of the parcel of land on the common called Chelston Heathfield within the parish of West Buckland,' numbered 13 in the plan of the Commissioners named in an Act of Parliament passed 52 George III. entitled *An Act for enclosing lands in the parish of West Buckland, Somerset*, containing 3 acres and 12 perches, bounded on the east by a certain road called Haywards road on the north west by lands in the parish of Wellington belonging to Mr. Thomas and on the south by a carriage road [Plan in the margin of the deed] which said plot

extends north eastwards as far as the hedge which divides the close of land adjoining thereto belonging to the said parties who are grantees in and by these presents from the close of land belonging to the Reverend William Proctor Thomas and the boundary of the same plot of land is to be in a straight line from the said hedge to the public road leading from West Buckland to Wellington. Upon Trust that the said second parties, their heirs &c. shall pay the rents, issues and profits of the said land towards the repairing supporting and keeping up of the Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting House in Wellington 'of which the Reverend John Harcombe Cuff is now pastor' for so long time as such meeting house shall be there used and continued as a place of religious worship for Protestant Dissenters. In case the said Meeting House shall be discontinued then the Trustees shall apply the said profits &c. of the said land to any other meeting house of Protestant Dissenters of the Presbyterian persuasion, preference being given to one in Wellington.

Signed by W. Kinglake, John Lean, Isaac Deacon Haddon, Wm. Colman. Henry Waldron and John Furze. Witnesses: Jno. Oxenham, Joseph Buck, Samuel Woodford, and Wm. Upham.

Inrolled 12 Sept. 1815.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll* 9510, 55 *George III. Part* 13, *No.* 7.)

II.

An Assignment,[1] 18 December, 1826, from Messrs. Fox and others to Mr. Nott.

Probably the property assigned by this deed is identical with that concerned in the trust deed, dated 19 September, 1832, hereafter described.

III.

Indenture, 1 Jan. 1829. Between William Woodford of Taunton, Somerset, carpenter, of the 1st part, William Collard Pyne, of Wellington, surgeon, John Furze, of Wellington, gent., Henry Waldron of Bishops Hull, Som., gent., Zechariah Carleton Stiff of Wellington, gent., William Collard of Sampford Bret, Som. gent., William Besley the younger, of Wellington, schoolmaster, John Pring of Wellington, baker, James Chadwell of Wellington, carrier, William Stradling of Wellington, grocer, Richard Furze of Wellington, brazier, John Sharland of Wellington, spirit merchant and Robert Butter of West Buckland, Som. gent., trustees of the Presbyterian Meeting house in Wellington, of the second part, and Joseph Hallett of Wellington, roper, and John Hallett of Wellington, woolcomber, of the third part.

[1] I am unable to supply particulars of this deed, as the Rev. G. W. Joyce refuses to answer my letters concerning this and other deeds.—A. L. H.

Witnesseth that for £200 William Woodford granted, sold &c. to William Collard Pyne and others of the second part their heirs &c., All those two messuages or dwelling houses with gardens being part & parcel of a tenement called Berrys 'one of which said dwelling houses is situate . . . in Mantle Street, Wellington . . . and now in possession of Joseph Mallett as tenant . . . and the other house is situate at the southern end of the before mentioned dwelling house and in a lane called Bowermans Lane otherwise Burmans Lane in Wellington and now in the possession of Sarah Jenkins as tenant thereof and the two gardens are situate on the south of the said dwelling houses . . . which said houses and gardens were devised to the said William Woodford under the will of Thomas Woodford his grandfather bearing date the 27 December 1788 (save and except that part of the said premises containing about 11 feet 6 inches in length 7 feet 1 inch in breadth heretofore enclosed and now forming a shed or spinning house and attached to premises occupied by the said Joseph Mallett.' The said second parties to hold the said dwelling houses &c. Upon Trust to pay the rents & profits thereof 'unto the pastor for the time being of the Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting house now commonly called Independent Meeting house in Wellington aforesaid for his benefit and advantage of which Meeting house the Reverend John Harcombe Cuff is the present pastor.' If the trustees at any time shall deem it necessary to withhold the said rents, profits &c. from the pastor for the time being, then the rents, profits &c. shall go towards the repairing supporting and keeping up of the said Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting house . . . or to the repairing of a certain school house about to be erected on the said premises hereby bargained and sold for the use of the Sunday School Children of the said Presbyterian or Independent Meeting house. The Trustees, never to be less than five or more than fifteen, to be appointed by the Communicants of the Church. As the Title deeds relating to the said dwelling houses also related to property of the said John and Joseph Hallett the third parties to this indenture, the said trustees undertake to produce certain deeds when necessary, *i.e.* an Indenture of Feoffment, 12 June 1780, between Thomas Were, merchant, and Thomas Woodford, serge-weaver, deceased, also an office copy of the last will of the said Thomas Woodford dated 27 Dec. 1788.

Signed by all the above mentioned parties.

Witnesses: Rich[d] Lyddon, jun[r], Wm. Beale, Wm. Besley, sen[r]., Ann Pring, Jane Pearse, T. Tanner, Betty Tanner, John Every, John Boon, F. Sharland, Wm. Rodham, Jas. Stradling and Lucy Mann.

Inrolled 18 April 1829.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll* 10623, 10 *Geo. IV. Part* 7, *No.* 2.)

IV.

Indenture, 23 Feb. 1829. John Furze, of Wellington, gent., of the 1st part, for divers good causes and considerations sold to William Collard Pyne, of Wellington, surgeon, Henry Waldron of Bishops Hull, gent., Zechariah Carlton Stiff of Wellington, gent., William Collard of Sampford Brett, gent., William Besley, the younger, of Wellington, schoolmaster, John Pring of Wellington, baker, James Chadwell of Wellington, carrier, William Stradling of Wellington, grocer, Richard Furze of Wellington, brazier, John Sharland of Wellington, spirit merchant, Robert Butter, of West Buckland, gent., and [blank] of Wellington, Trustees of the Presbyterian Meeting house in Wellington of the 2nd part, all the interest he held in the residue of a term of 1000 years which began 4 April, 1687, in 'two cottages with gardens . . . in Bowermans Lane abutting on the east upon the lands heretofore of one Matthew Bishop and now the property of the Trustees of the said Presbyterian or Independent Meeting house and on the west by a spot of land belonging to the said Trustees on which a school house is about to be erected which said two cottages and gardens contain in length 50 feet and 6 inches and in breadth in the front 27 feet & 9 inches and in breadth in the back 28 feet & 9 inches,' tenanted by Thomas Lane and Betty Gyles. The said two cottages were assigned by Edward Fry to the said John Furze by Indenture, 31 March, 1821. The Trustees to pay the rents profits &c. unto the pastor for the time being of the Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting house 'now commonly called the Independent Meeting house in Wellington . . . for his benefit and advantage (of which Meeting house the Reverend John Harcombe Cuff is the present pastor) . . . or to the repairing supporting and keeping up of the said Dissenting Presbyterian Meeting house . . . or to the repairing of a certain school house about to be erected on a spot of land adjoining the premises hereby assigned for the use of the Sunday School children of the said Presbyterian . . . Meeting house.' The Trustees not to exceed fifteen or to be less than five. Signed by the parties above named.

Witnesses: Rich[d] Lyddon, junr., John Holley, Wm. Beale, Jn[o] Bicknell.

Inrolled 18 April 1829.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll* 10623, 10 *Geo. IV. Part* 7, *No.* 1.)

V.

Indenture, 19 September, 1832. John Nott of Wrangway, parish of Wellington, Som. gent., bargained and sold to himself the said John Nott, John Harcombe Cuff of Wellington, minister of

the gospel, William Collard Pyne of Wellington, surgeon, William Collard of Exeter, attorney at law, William Collard Pyne, the younger, of Wellington, gent., John Harcombe Cuff, the younger, of Wellington, gent., Richard Parminter Cuff of Wellington, gent., William Besley of Wellington, schoolmaster, James Hartnell of Wrangway, yeoman, Robert Furze, the younger, of Wellington, yeoman, and William Pulsford, the younger, of Wellington, yeoman, Trustees for the purpose hereafter mentioned, the messuage or dwellinghouse or parcel of land thereunto belonging 'together with the Chapèl or meeting house lately erected thereon . . . at Wrangway . . . said premises commonly called Frenches formerly in the possession of John French after that of Samuel Wale his tenant . . . after that of Mary Hartnell widow, since that now or late of John Salter, mason.' To hold the same for the unexpired term of 500 years. Upon Trust the rents and profits &c. to be paid 'towards the repairing supporting and keeping of the said messuage . . . and the Chapel or Meeting house, or to the Pastor of the said Chapel or Meeting house for the time being of the Presbyterian or Independent persuasion situate in Fore Street in Wellington.' The premises hereby assigned shall be appendant and appurtenant to the Meeting house or Chapel in Fore Street, Wellington. The Trustees never to exceed 15 or to be less than 3.

Signed by the parties above named.

Witness: Rich[d] Lyddon.

Inrolled 2 Oct. 1832.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll*, 3 *William IV.* [1832] *Part* 16, *No.* 26.)

VI.

Indenture, 17 September, 1840, whereby Thomas Hurley leased for one year, the piece of ground described in the next deed, to the trustees the third parties described in the next deed. Inrolled 24 November, 1840.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll* 12298, 1840, *Part* 51, *No.* 8.)

VII.

Indenture, 18 Sept. 1840. Between Thomas Hurley of Wellington, Som., innholder, of the 1st part, Frederick Sharland of Wellington, wine & spirit merchant of the 2nd part, and William Collard Pyne, surgeon, William Besley, schoolmaster, John Pring, baker, James Chadwell, carrier, William Stradling, grocer, Richard Furze, brazier, John Sharland, wine & spirit merchant, and William Collard, gent., all of Wellington, Zechariah Carleton Stiff of Barnstaple, Devon, gent., Mark Westron of Kensington, Middlesex, gent., and Isaac Deacon Haddon of Wellington, draper, of the third part.

Recites Indentures of Lease and Release 25 and 26 Nov. 1839,

of eight parties, conveying lands &c. to Thomas Hurley. Also recites Indenture of Demise, 18 April 1692, between Richard Berry, gent., and Agnes Meredith, widow, and also other Agreements. This Indenture Witnesseth, among other things, that Thomas Hurley of the first part sold a piece of ground (used as a garden in the occupation of Edward Mullett, gentleman, as tenant to Thomas Hurley) situate in Wellington, bounded on the south and east by the Squirrell Inn and on the west by the burial ground belonging to the Independent Meeting House in Wellington, and on the north by a dwelling house belonging to the Trustees of the said Meeting House, to the above named persons of the 3rd part 'the Trustees of the Independent Meeting House.' Reservation of rights of way to the Squirrell Inn. Upon such Trusts for the benefit of the 'Congregation of Protestant Dissenters called Presbyterians more frequently now called Independents of Wellington' as are mentioned, expressed and declared in an Indenture of Release dated 18 July 1728, and made between James Perry of the one part, and Thomas Pearse, John Pearse, Edward Churley, William Gifford, John Check, Henry Waldron, John Musgrave, Peter Bardet and John Southerton of the other part and to and for no other use trust interest or purpose whatsoever.

Signed by the parties above named except Wm. Collard, Zechariah Carleton Stiff, and Mark Westron.

Witnesses: William Rodham, Thos. Rodham.

Inrolled, 24 Nov. 1840.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll* 12298, 1840, *Part* 51, *No.* 7.)

VIII.

Indenture, 24 Feb. 1844. Between William Collard Pyne of Wellington, surgeon of the first part, William Collard formerly of Wellington but now of Lynton, Devon, gent., Zechariah Carleton Stiff formerly of Wellington, now of Barnstaple, Devon, Esqre., William Besley, schoolmaster, John Pring, baker, William Stradling, grocer, Richard Furze, brazier, and John Sharland, gent., all of Wellington of the 2nd part, and the said William Collard Pyne, William Collard, Zechariah Carleton Stiff, William Besley, John Pring, William Stradling, Richard Furze, and John Sharland of the 3rd part. William Collard Pyne for 10*s.* sold to the persons of the 2nd part, a cottage with garden &c. situate in Mantle Street, Wellington, formerly in the occupation of James Blackmore, deceased, after that of Thomas Webber, deceased, after that of Joseph Neath as tenant to Susan Webber the widow of Thomas Webber and now of the said Joseph Neath as tenant to the said William Collard Pyne. Upon Trust to pay the rents, profits &c. of the same to 'the pastor for the time being of the Independent

(formerly called Presbyterian) Meeting House in Wellington . . . for his benefit and advantage (of which Meeting House the Rev. John Harcombe Cuff is the present pastor) . . . or to the repairing of the said Meeting House . . . or to the repairing of a certain school house in Bowerman's Lane, Wellington, for the use of the Sunday School Children of the Independent Meeting House.'

Signed by the above named parties.

Witnesses: Mary Collard Pyne, Geo. Thos. Freek, James Harvey.

Inrolled 1 March 1844.

(*Public Record Office*, *Close Roll* 13026, 1844, *Part* 26, *No.* 26.)

Authorities. Obituary in *Evangelical Magazine*, August, 1847, N. S. vol. xxv. p. 401.

Notice of Ordination Ceremony, *Evangelical Magazine*, November, 1813, vol. xxi. p. 430.

Wellington Congregational Chapel and Schools. By the Rev. G. W. Joyce, published in the *Somerset Congregational Magazine*, February, 1891.

The Registers of Births, Baptisms, and Burials.

Information kindly supplied by Mrs. Sophia Miller (the daughter of John Harcombe Cuff), who also supplied some interesting extracts from her father's journal.

Public Record Office for Trust Deeds.

WILLIAM WINLAW (1846-1850).

The Rev. William Winlaw, who succeeded the Rev. John Harcombe Cuff as pastor, was educated at the Lancashire College. His ordination service was held in Wellington Town Hall, 19 May, 1846. The Rev. John C. Davis, of Wells, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. C. Williams, who had been pastor of Uffculm, proposed the usual questions; the Rev. G. Payne offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. Dr. Vaughan gave the charge. The Revs. James Taylor, M. Hodge, John Poole, W. Standerwick, H. Addiscott, and H. Quick took part in the service.[1]

During his pastorate a startling and serious incident occurred. On Sunday, July 5, 1846, about 8 a.m., a storm broke over Wellington and continued till about 9 a.m., when a flash of lightning struck the schoolroom in which the children belonging to the congregation of the 'Independent Christians' were congregated. The lightning struck down fourteen of the children in the lower room, of whom nine were seriously injured, and one lad named Harcombe was killed. A contemporary account says the lightning appeared 'to have been attracted by some nails by which the slating was fastened

[1] *Evangelical Mag.* Sept. 1846, N. S. vol. xxiv. p. 488.

to the wall outside. It entered through two windows, on the western side of the building, and which were at a distance of from 50 to 60 feet from each other, and having ran along different parts, apparently in search of a vent, a portion of it forced its way through the windows on the opposite side, breaking the glass, and splintering and burning the woodwork. The rest of the fluid passed down the stair case to the lower room, where the dreadful accident took place.'

The lad Harcombe was buried in the yard connected with the Chapel, the Rev. William Winlaw, the teachers and scholars joined the funeral procession, and in the Chapel an appropriate address was delivered by the minister.[1]

The Rev. William Winlaw's ministry failed to maintain that unity so essential for the success of a Congregational Church. Many left the congregation to join the Baptists or Wesleyans, among whom may be mentioned Mr. John Haddon, who joined the Baptists.

The dissensions reached their climax in 1850, in consequence of which Mr. Winlaw signed a document by which he submitted himself to the discretion of the ministers representing the Somerset Association. As a result of their representation a meeting of the Congregation was convened for 25 July, 1850, at which meeting Mr. Winlaw tendered his resignation. The meeting declined to accept his resignation, as they considered that the document by which Mr. Winlaw felt bound was improperly obtained from him, that the Ministers of the 'Somerset Association' had not properly considered the case, having listened to certain individuals instead of consulting the congregation, and the meeting did not consider that their pastor was bound by the document he had signed.

On 7 August, 1850, a meeting was held at the Wellington Town Hall, by the congregation and those friendly to Mr. Winlaw, to show their esteem of him by a presentation of plate. T. Thompson, Esq., of Poundsford Park, was chairman and addressed the meeting, as did also J. Stradling, R. Davie, solicitor, and the Rev. Dr. Bewglass. The speakers endeavoured to persuade Mr. Winlaw to withdraw his resignation and accused the ministers of the 'Somerset Association' of having acted under female influence prejudiced by the fact that Mr. Winlaw had selected for his wife a lady, not of Wellington, but a Miss Andrews of Stockport.

Mr. R. Davie presented the plate, which consisted of a tea-pot, coffee-pot, milk-jug, and sugar-basin, the inscription being, 'Presented to the Rev. W. Winlaw, by his devoted and attached friends, as a token of their esteem and love. Wellington, July, 1850.'

The Rev. W. Winlaw in replying said that he had given his word, and would abide by it. What he had written he had written, and what he had said he had said, and that was all he would say on

[1] *Somerset County Gaz.* 11 July, 1846.

that painful matter. Remarking upon the success of his efforts for the Church he said that the members had almost doubled since he came to Wellington, for whereas he found 92 members about 80 others had since been added to the roll. He had devoted considerable time to the young, and had established classes for the young men and the young women. A very full account of this extraordinary meeting is given in the *Somerset County Gazette*, 10 August, 1850, p. 3.

A section of the congregation considered that the dissensions in the church were caused by Mr. Winlaw's preaching and a scarcity of common sense and practicality in various matters, and that the charge of adverse female influence was totally unwarrantable and merely supposititious.[1]

Mr. Winlaw left his Wellington pastorate in 1850, and in 1852 he accepted a pastorate at Middleton, Lancashire. In 1853 he seceded from the Congregationalists and joined the ministry of the Established Church of England.[2]

Mr. Winlaw was a Hamilton Prizeman in Logic and Metaphysics at the University of Edinburgh; Theological Associate, in 1854, of King's College, London; and became a B.D. of St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1882. He was ordained a Deacon of the Established Church in 1855, and Priest in 1856; was Curate of St. Peter, Ashton-under-Lyme, 1855–7, and of St. Paul's, Preston, 1857–9. From 1859–78 he was Perpetual Curate of St. Luke's, Preston, and became the Rector of Morden, Surrey, in 1878, which position he held until 1899. His widow, Jane Winlaw, was residing at Morden, October, 1911.

His son, George Preston Kelsale Winlaw, born March, 1873, succeeded him as Rector of Morden. Another son, William Willoughby Winlaw, was born in September, 1874.

JAMES LE COUTEUR (1851-1869).

The Rev. James Le Couteur,[3] who succeeded the Rev. W. Winlaw as pastor, was born in the island of Jersey, 8 September, 1814. From the age of five to twelve years he resided with an uncle and aunt. He was educated at Elizabeth College, Guernsey, and at St. Malo, in France. He desired to enter the ministry, but his friends wished him to follow the medical profession. His feelings proving themselves too sensitive for medical practice, he was put to a business, but he still cherished the idea of the ministry. A year or two after, while living at Worcester, he devoted himself to study and the preaching of the gospel. He placed himself under the guidance of

[1] Mrs. Miller's letter to A. L. H., December 21st, 1909.
[2] *Congregational Year Book*, 1853, p. 132; 1854, p. 214.
[3] This biography is principally from his obituary in the *Congregational Year Book*, 1871, p. 329.

the Rev. Mr. Dewhurst, of Bury St. Edmunds, for private tuition, and while there often preached in that town and outlying places. The 1 May, 1838, a church was formed in the Independent Chapel at Upwey, near Weymouth, Dorset, when James Le Couteur received his first call and was chosen to be its pastor.[1] He was ordained 2 May. He remained at Upwey for seven or eight years, and from 2 April, 1846, to 27 November, 1849,[2] he was pastor at Liscard, Cheshire. After resigning his charge at Liscard he went to reside at Taunton.

In the summer of 1850 he was invited to preach at Wellington, and received a call to this pastorate which he commenced on the first Sabbath in April, 1851,[3] and continued to hold this office until his death in 1869. On the second Sabbath in November, 1869, he exchanged pulpit services with his friend, the Rev. J. E. Drover of Wincanton, and from that time he appeared to be gradually drooping. However, he occupied his own pulpit on the 21 November, and stayed to the monthly prayer-meeting of the teachers and friends, for the young people of the congregation and Sunday-school. On retiring to his house, adjoining the chapel, he was with some difficulty got to bed. Medical skill was of no avail against the complications of disorders that arose and he died 28 December, 1869. He was interred in the chapel burial ground in the presence of a very large concourse of friends. His funeral sermon was delivered in the Independent Chapel, by the Rev. G. W. Humphreys, pastor of the Baptists in South Street, on Sunday morning, 9 January, 1870, which sermon was afterwards printed. The Rev. G. W. Joyce, writing of him in his account of this Chapel in the *Somerset Congregational Magazine*, February, 1891, says: 'He is remembered as a useful and affectionate minister of the Gospel; and of a most kind and gentle spirit. His widow and family are members of the Church still; one daughter has been organist for some years. During his pastorate the present building and the organ were erected, and paid for, largely owing to his zeal and perseverance. It was he who commenced the monthly observance of the Lord's Supper on the first Sabbath in January, 1851. He also introduced the Annual United Communion Service for Christians of all denominations, held on the first Sabbath[4] in every year; the first one of which was held in the Independent Chapel on January 4th, 1852, at 3 p.m. Addresses by Revs. J. Le Couteur and J. Baynes.'

Probably Mr. Le Couteur's pastorate will be chiefly remembered

[1] Densham and Ogle. *Congregational Churches of Dorset*, 1899, pp. 3, 323.
[2] F. J. Powicke, *Cheshire Co. Union of Cong. Churches*, Manchester, 1907, p. 256.
[3] *Evangelical Mag.* May, 1851. *Somerset County Gaz.* 22 March, 1851.
[4] 'Now held at the conclusion of the Annual Week of United and Universal Prayer' (*Wellington Weekly News*, 18 May, 1910).

for the demolition of the old chapel and the erection of a new one with schools and class-rooms. The old Independent Chapel at Wellington was a small brick-built building situate in Fore Street and was erected in 1730.[1] During a period of 130 years the chapel was found commodious enough to afford all the accommodation required by those who frequented it, but at the time of Mr. Le Couteur's pastorate it had fallen into a very dilapidated state which together with the fact that the number of Independents or Congregationalists in Wellington had been considerably augmented, rendered it absolutely necessary that a larger and better building should be erected.

The ceremony[2] of laying the foundation stone of the new chapel was performed by Henry Fox, Esq., of Wellington, at 4 o'clock on Friday afternoon, May 4th, 1860. At this ceremony the Rev. James Le Couteur read the following copy of a document, containing the history of the chapel, which had been placed in a bottle and inserted in the bottom of the stone.

'Historical Records.—The cause of Christ in connection with this place originated, under the blessing of God, in the labours of the Rev. Malachi Blake, a non-conformist minister, residing at Blagdon, in the parish of Pitminster, who was distantly related to that great man and distinguished patriot, Admiral Blake. The congregation at that time worshipped in a meeting-house somewhere behind the Three Cups Inn, in Wellington. In the year 1726,[3] Mr. Perry, a resident in the town, purchased the present site, with the view of enabling the people to bury in their own ground, and with the understanding they should erect a place of worship within three years. In 1730 our late chapel was opened. The names of the ministers who have successively occupied the pulpit are as follows :—Rev. Mr. Berry, the church during his ministry consisting of 28 members ; Rev. Risdon Darracott, 1741 to 1759. In 1748 the chapel was enlarged, at a cost of £56 14*s.* 4*d.* The church while he was pastor numbered 300 members. Rev. Jeremiah Field, the next pastor, died 27th of April, 1767 ; his funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Taunton. Rev. Richard Parminter settled here in Sept. 1767, and left December, 1777. Rev. Joseph Chadwick, born at Trull, near Taunton, in 1751, ordained 13th of July, 1781,[4]

[1] I have a photograph of a picture which shows the front view of this old Independent Chapel. In the burial ground a funeral service is being conducted by the pastor Mr. Cuff. On the footpath outside the church grounds there is a bath-chair, in which is seated Mrs. Elizabeth Parminter, which is being drawn by Roger Nott. Thomas Jarman Cuff is by the side of the chair. In the roadway there is a group of three figures which represents Mr. Davie, the attorney, with his wife and daughter. The picture was drawn by Richard Parminter Cuff in 1843.

[2] A full account of the ceremony, speeches, &c., is given in the *Somerset County Gazette*, 12 May, 1860.

[3] Probably a misprint for 1728, see Trust deed dated 18 July, 1728, p. 340.

[4] Apparently an error ; more probably 31 July, 1778, see p. 358.

removed to Sherborne, Dorset, went to Oundle in 1792,[1] pastor there more than 40 years, died 7th May, 1841, in his 90th year. Rev. John Giles, ordained in the autumn of 1787, left for America. Rev. Mr. Parish preached his first sermon at Wellington, March 29th, 1795. Rev. Daniel Tyerman took the charge 16th of July, 1800, left for Newport in the Isle of Wight; visited the missionary stations on behalf of the London Missionary Society, in company with Mr. George Bennett, and died in the capital of Madagascar. Rev. William Lewis was here for a short time. Rev. William Bannister commenced his labours here towards the close of 1807. Rev. John Harcomb Cuff came to Wellington, in June, 1812, was ordained September 8th, 1813, died 29th October, 1845. In the year 1815 a gallery was erected for the accommodation of the Sunday School, at a cost of £57 11*s.* 2*d.* In 1829 Sunday school-rooms[2] were also built. In 1846 the Rev. William Winlaw became minister here, and left in 1850. In 1851 the Rev. James Le Couteur accepted the call to the pastorate here. The chapel having been the scene of much usefulness for 130 years, requiring, from the lapse of time, extensive repairs, it was deemed desirable, after much deliberation, to rebuild. The foundation-stone of the present structure was laid by Henry Fox, Esq., May 4th, 1860.'

To this were appended the following names: Pastor, J. Le Couteur; deacons, E. Miller and G. T. Freek; committee, T. E. Hooker, W. Stradling, W. Payne, C. Norman, J. Haddon, F. Lane, J. Pring, and E. Parsons.

After the reading of the paper, Mr. Fox and the Rev. H. Addiscott addressed the meeting; the Doxology was then sung, and the ceremony was concluded by prayer, offered up by the Rev. J. Poole, of Bishop's Hull.

An amusing scene followed, the children in the yard being each allowed the privilege of standing on the foundation stone. A large cake was afterwards given to each juvenile as he or she left the yard.

A tea meeting was afterwards held in the Town Hall, when upwards of 250 persons assembled, and the Rev. J. Le Couteur, who addressed the gathering, stated that they had £590 in the bank, and that the promises they had received would make it £1050, out of which the Chapel-Building Society in London had contributed £150. The building without the school-room and class-rooms would cost £1400, and with them £1600.

The gathering was also addressed by Mr. Pollard, the architect, and the Rev. H. Addiscott, Mr. Young, the Rev. E. Jones, and others.

A full report is printed in the *Somerset County Gazette*, 12 May, 1860.

[1] Should be 1790, see p. 361.

[2] This is referred to in the Trust deed, 1 January, 1829, see p. 387.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The ceremony of opening the new Independent Chapel, Schools and Class-rooms, took place on Wednesday, 26 June, 1861, and the following contemporary description of the building will be of interest:—'The new chapel stands on the site of the old one, in Fore Street, near the centre of the town. It was built by Mr. Macey, of Bishop's Hull, from the designs, and under the superintendence, of Mr. S. Pollard, architect, of Taunton.

'It is a strikingly handsome building, and is highly creditable to the skill and taste of all the parties concerned. It is in the Early English style, and its external parts are of flint, with Bath-stone dressings. On either side it has five buttresses, with two in front, terminating at the apex of the gable with cups and finial. The principal entrance, fronting the street, is by double-arched doorways, opening into the vestibule, 22 feet by 10 feet, with two separate entrances and staircases to the gallery. The interior of the chapel is remarkable for its neatness, loftiness and spaciousness. The size of the chapel in the gallery, which extends over the vestibule, is 68 feet by 37½. This does not include the apse, which is behind the pulpit, and has three ornamental windows. The body is fitted with neat, varnished open sittings, capable of affording accommodation to 400 persons; while in the organ and school gallery there is room for 140 more. The pulpit is a raised enclosed platform on a daïs, and on this is placed the communion-table. The roof of the chapel is an open one, and the whole of the timbers visible are wrought and varnished. The central height is 40 feet, and the side height 20. On each side of the building are three mullion arch-headed traceried windows. On each side a trebled front window, and an oriel window over the pulpit. The chapel is lighted with gas, a central corona light being suspended from the roof. In the gallery is placed a small organ. Attached to the chapel are two remarkably fine schoolrooms, a prayer-room, and six class-rooms, with a vestry for the minister. The cost of the entire building was only £1956, and towards that sum £1500 had been contributed or promised, leaving £456 to be collected to clear off the debt.'

The ceremony commenced shortly before eleven a.m. with a prayer by the Rev. J. Allen, of the Independent Chapel, Chudleigh, and the singing of a hymn. The Rev. A. McMillan, of the North Street (Independent) Chapel, Taunton, then read portions of the Scriptures, which were followed by prayer. Then the Rev. T. W. Aveling, of London, preached a sermon on 2 Peter i. 18:—'And this voice which came from Heaven we heard when we were with Him in the Holy Mount.' The sermon being followed by a hymn, and a collection made, the morning service terminated with a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Baynes, pastor of the Baptist Chapel, Wellington.

In the schoolroom a lunch was laid, to which about 200 persons

sat down, grace being said by the Rev. F. J. Perry, pastor of the Independent Chapel, Ilminster.

Addresses were delivered by Mr. Le Couteur, the Rev. A. M. Brown, LL.D., of Cheltenham, Mr. H. O. Wills, of Bristol, Mr. Pollard, the architect, T. Coker, of Taunton, the Rev. E. Jones, of the Independent Chapel, Bridgwater, Mr. Hooker, of Wellington, the Rev. T. W. Aveling, of London, the Rev. W. H. Griffith, headmaster of the Dissenters' Proprietary College, Taunton, and the Rev. A. McMillan, of Taunton, each in their turn spoke on the necessity of clearing off the debt on the new chapel. Mr. Pollard, speaking of the old chapel, said that 'Upstairs there was a place, a sort of dark hole —it could hardly be called a "black hole"—where they used to put the unruly children. The gallery was unfit for habitation, and below it was far from comfortable for the congregation.'

After the luncheon Mr. Le Couteur announced that the result of the appeal made by slips of paper had reduced the debt to £202.

A public tea-meeting was held at half-past five p.m. in the school-rooms. After tea the company adjourned to the chapel, where addressed were delivered by Mr. Coker, the Rev. Mr. Aveling, and Mr. W. Wills, after which it was announced that by payments and promises the debt was further reduced to £126.

The evening service commenced at half-past seven. The Rev. Dr. Brown preached from Zechariah iii. 9 and 10: 'For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua,' &c. After the service a collection was made, which left the debt on the chapel at about £100. A very full report of this ceremony is given in the *Somerset County Gazette*, 29 June, 1861.

During the erection of the new buildings Mr. Charles Haddon[1] rendered very valuable help as unpaid 'clerk of the works.' Mrs. Sarah Cuff, the widow of the Rev. John Harcombe Cuff, gave over £500 towards the expenses.

In 1861, the new chapel, then described as 'Congregational Independent Chapel, Fore Street, Wellington,' was registered for solemnizing marriages therein (pursuant to the Act 6 & 7 Wm. IV. cap. 85) on 25 July, 1861.[2] The old chapel was registered in August, 1837.

John Nott, by his will dated 22 December, 1855, proved at Taunton 26 July, 1862, bequeathed to the Trustees of the Independent Chaple, at Wrangway, £200, for the support of the school attached to the chapel and the officiating minister thereof, at the discretion of the Trustees.

20 January, 1863, J. Le Couteur delivered a lecture at the Chapel on 'Risdon Darracott and his Times.' About 300 persons

[1] *Somerset Congregational Mag.* February, 1891.
[2] *London Gazette*, 30 July, 1861, p. 3196.

were present, a tea-meeting preceded the lecture, and some person purloined three silver spoons.[1]

A new organ erected in the gallery, by Messrs. Cranmer & Co., London, in 1865, was opened by an organ recital by Mr. J. R. Toms, on the 16 December. A sermon was preached by the Rev. R. P. Erlebach, of Chard. The organ contained 10 stops, and 362 pipes; estimated cost £130. Among the contributors were Mr. P. J. Elworthy and Mrs. Elworthy for £40.[2]

In 1865 a night school, for young men belonging to the Bible Class of the Sunday School, was opened. Mr. Hill conducted it.[3]

There were three Trust deeds[4] executed during Mr. Le Couteur's pastorate: (1) Conveyance, dated 2 October, 1854, by John Lean to new trustees, of a yearly rent charge of £4. (2) Assignment, 6 June, 1866, by John Pring to new Trustees, of cottages and gardens in Bowermans Lane and Conveyance of Cottages and School house, a plot of ground and of a house in Mantle Street. No doubt the same property vested in trustees by Indenture 1 January, 1829 (see p. 386). (3) Deed dated 25 May, 1867, Jno. Wm. Pulsford and others to new Trustees. Appointment of new Trustees.

The following special sermons by Mr. Le Couteur were published:—

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. A sermon occasioned by the death of Mrs. Waldron, Wellington, Somerset, preached on Sunday morning, January 27th, 1861. By James Le Couteur. 8vo. Wellington, 1861.

Peace with God. A sermon occasioned by the death of Mrs. Shapland, Wellington, Somerset, preached on Sunday evening, July 10th, 1864. By James Le Couteur. 8 pp. 16mo. Wellington, 1864.

The funeral sermon by Mr. Humphreys was published with the following title: *A Funeral Sermon delivered on the occasion of the death of the Rev. James Le Couteur, at the Independent Chapel, Wellington, on Sunday morning, January 9th*, 1870, *by the Rev. G. W. Humphreys, B.A.* '*Into thine hand I commit my Spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of Truth.*' Printed by Cutler, Wellington. pp. 8.

P. HEWART DAVISON (1870–1873).

The Rev. Portas Hewart Davison who succeeded the Rev. James Le Couteur, was born at Hull, 28 April, 1819. Early in life he developed powers as a public speaker, preaching his first sermon when aged 15. His father, a builder in Hull, put him to the drapery business, but being selected as a candidate for the Congregational ministry he entered Rotherham College for the usual training. At

[1] *Somerset Co. Gaz.* 24 Jan. 1863. [2] *Ibid.* 16 Dec. 1865. [3] *Ibid.* 19 Aug. 1865.
[4] I am unable to supply fuller details of these deeds, as the Rev. G. W. Joyce refuses to answer my letters to him concerning the history of this church.—A. L. H.

the close of his college course he became pastor of a church at Dronfield, Derbyshire, about 1846 to 1850, where he was known as the 'boy preacher.' His next pastorate was at Cockermouth, 1850 to 1854, where he was the means of building a new chapel. Whilst at Cockermouth he married Miss Elizabeth Colford. After some years of useful work at Cockermouth he accepted a call, in 1855, to the pastorate of the church at Wandsworth, Surrey, then a growing suburb of London. He entered ardently into his work, his congregation increased, and it became necessary to erect a larger church. As an appreciation of his labours a clock was presented to him inscribed 'Presented to Rev. P. H. Davison, with a purse of gold, by friends in his church and congregation, as a token of their esteem and regard for him as their pastor. Wandsworth, 7 October, 1863.'

The strain of an ever-growing pastorate proved too great and together with the ill-health of his wife he was led to resign his charge in 1869. After a time of rest, thinking that his work was not all done, he visited the West of England and received calls to the pastorate at Kingsbridge and also at Wellington. At Wellington he had made a great impression, the young people especially sending him a petition, numerously signed, wanting him to come to Wellington. He accepted the call of this Church for three years and commenced his ministry in March, 1870. In 1873 his health would not permit him to carry on the regular work of a pastorate, so he retired from the ministry. He continued to reside at Wellington, but moved into the High Street, where he purchased a house, and for some years he did good service as an occasional supply, and remained a member of the Wellington Church until his death.

Whilst pastor of Wellington he renovated and enlarged the minister's residence, giving liberally towards the same and collecting most of the money for the outlay. He was largely instrumental in the rebuilding of the village chapel at Wrangway. Mr. Davison was of a bright genial disposition, very fond of children and flowers, and very proud of being a Yorkshireman. His style of preaching was practical rather than profound or original. He died 7 January, 1894, after a few days' illness. His wife survived him.

(*Congregational Year Book*, 1895, p. 199; *Wellington Weekly News*, 10 Jan. 1894; *Somerset Congregational Mag.* Feb. 1891, article by the Rev. G. W. Joyce on Wellington Congregational Chapel.)

WILLIAM COURTNALL (1873-1879).

The Rev. William Courtnall, who succeeded the Rev. P. H. Davison, was the only son of James Courtnall and was born at Barnet, 12 October, 1839. He joined the church at Camberwell Green, under the pastorate of John Burnet, subsequently he studied

for the ministry at Hackney College. In 1866 he accepted the pastorate at Haverhill, where he remained until 1869. His next pastorate was at Cheese Lane Chapel, Wellingborough, which he held from 1870 to 1873, and then, having succeeded in uniting two churches, he resigned, as he considered that the united church should choose its own minister. Mr Courtnall's final pastorate was at Wellington, where he received a welcome from the church and congregation at a meeting held 13 November, 1873. Whilst at Wellington he for some time acted as one of the Secretaries for the Somerset Association. During his pastorate he had preaching stations at Wrangway, Westleigh, and Appley. Through failing health he was obliged to retire from ministerial work, and in his resignation of the Wellington pastorate, which took effect on 3 October, 1879, he said that it was 'a happy and peaceful pastorate, terminated as pleasantly as it had commenced and continued.'

During his pastorate of Wellington restrictions were made concerning the use of the chapel and grounds for burial purposes. By an Order in Council, dated 24 March, 1873, it was ordered that burials in the Independent Chapel were wholly forbidden, and that interments in the burial ground should be discontinued on and after 1 January, 1874, except in vaults and walled graves existing on 1 November, 1872, in which each coffin shall be embedded in charcoal and separately enclosed by stonework or brickwork properly cemented, and except also in other graves for the burial of the widowers, widows, or parents of those previously buried in the burial ground (*London Gazette*, 25 March, 1873, p. 1652). By another Order in Council dated 7 July, 1874, the date of the discontinuance of burials in the burial ground was postponed to 31 December, 1874 (*London Gazette*, 10 July, 1874, p. 3453).

Mr. Courtnall after his retirement from Wellington went to reside at Sudbury, Suffolk, where he took an active interest in temperance and philanthropic work. He became the secretary of the South Western Division of the Suffolk Congregational Union at its formation in 1881, retaining the post until 1900, during which period he visited nearly every church in West Suffolk. He died at his residence, Wood Hall, Sudbury, Suffolk, 22 October, 1907.

(*Congregational Year Book*, various years, especially obituary in 1908, p. 171; Wellington Congregational Chapel and Schools, by G. W. Joyce, in the *Somerset Congregational Magazine*, February 1891).

WILLIAM MOODY BLAKE (1880-1884).

The vacancy in the pastorate caused by the resignation of Mr. Courtnall was filled by the Rev. William Moody Blake, who commenced his labours as pastor 29 February, 1880. Mr. Blake was

born in Vizagapatan, in the Presidency of Madras, India, 6 August, 1828. His early home and education were at Madras, and his English college education was partly in London and partly at Bedford. Upon returning to India he continued his studies at Calcutta under the Rev. A. F. Lacroix. Being persuaded by Mrs. Mullens, daughter of Mr. Lacroix, he entered the service of the London Missionary Society in 1858, and laboured at Mirzapore, and for about ten years in Benares, where he married.

He returned to England in 1870, and owing to his wife's health he stayed and laboured for the London Missionary Society on deputation work. Ultimately he accepted a pastorate at St. Peter's, Guernsey, 1871–4, afterwards that of Holt, in Wiltshire, 1876–9. His next pastorate was at Wellington, 29 February, 1880. Here he found preaching stations at Wrangway and Appley, but the Appley station was soon closed. On 21 December, 1883, new Trustees were appointed concerning the Chapel and properties connected therewith.[1]

Mr. Blake resigned this pastorate 5 October, 1884, and went to reside at Clifton, Bristol. He took up again deputation work for the London Missionary Society, and in September, 1887, whilst engaged on this work and travelling between Mevagissey and St. Austell, in Cornwall, he was thrown from his vehicle and fractured a collar bone. He returned to Clifton, and apparently progressed favourably, but after a few days he suddenly collapsed, and died of syncope, 30 September, 1887. His widow survived him, but no family. He was buried at Arno's Vale Cemetery, Bristol, 3 October.

(*Congregational Year Books*, especially obituary in 1888, p. 149; G. W. Joyce, Wellington Chapel, in the *Somerset Congregational Mag.*, Feb., 1891; *Chron. London Miss. Soc.* 1887, pp. 491–2, 496.)

GEORGE WILLIAM JOYCE (1885-).

The Rev. George William Joyce, the present pastor, who succeeded the Rev. W. Moody Blake, was born at Faccombe, Hampshire, and was trained for the ministry at Hackney College. He was pastor at Mitcham, 1870–2; Tavistock, Devon, 1872–6; and at Farnham, Surrey, 1876–85. He commenced his pastorate at Wellington, 10 May, 1885. During his long pastorate at Wellington, Mr. Joyce has not confined all his labours to his church but has done much useful public work. From 1886-1902 he was one of the secretaries of the Somerset Congregational Union and of which he was chairman in 1894. For about 22 years he was the Hon. Secretary of the Somerset Evangelist Society. He is a Director of the London Missionary Society. Mr. Joyce has taken much interest in local affairs; for many years he was a member of the Board of Guardians, took an active

[1] I have been unable to see this deed, Mr. Joyce not having answered my letters concerning this and other deeds.—A. L. H.

interest in elementary education and served as chairman of the Wellington School Board and of its successor the Council School Managers.[1]

On Tuesday, 9 May, 1905, a date which marked the conclusion of 20 years of his ministry at Wellington, Mr. Joyce was presented by the Church and Congregation with an illuminated address and a cheque for £50 12*s.* 6*d.* in recognition of his services as pastor.

Mr. Joyce edited *Can ye drink of the cup that I drink of?, and other sermons*, by the Rev. J. M. Newland, London, 1879. He published in the *Somerset Congregational Magazine*, Feb., 1891, an account of the *Wellington Congregational Chapel and Schools.* He is known as a judge of birds, and on the 10 Feb., 1911, he lectured on 'Canaries and some Familiar British Birds.'

During his pastorate many improvements have been made in the church. In 1892 the plain glass of the large window in the front was replaced by coloured and tinted glass, and a new vestry was built. The organ was removed from the gallery and placed in the apse behind the pulpit. This arrangement necessitated structural alterations which were carried out by Mr. Twyford under the superintendence of Mr. E. T. Howard, architect. The choir-stalls were fixed in front of the pulpit and the apse transformed into an organ chamber. The organ was entirely rebuilt and enlarged by Mr. Knight, organ builder, of Bishop's Hull. The re-opening service took place on Friday, 29 July, 1892, when Mr. J. R. Toms gave an organ recital, and Mr. Tozer, the honorary treasurer, said that the estimated cost of the work was £145, towards which they had received or were promised £79 16*s.*[2]

In 1902 hot-water pipes were installed for the heating of the school and class rooms, the paths around the church were asphalted, and some improvements to the parsonage were carried out.

Early in 1910 it was decided to carry out renovations and alterations to the chapel and also to enlarge the organ. The enlargement of the organ was entrusted to Messrs. Knight & Son, of Taunton. The renovation of the chapel carried out by J. Twyford, builder, of Wellington, was of an extensive character. The spaces between the roof timbers were opened out and whitened, the walls were coloured, the whole of the woodwork cleansed and varnished and the stonework cleansed. And a further improvement was made by the introduction of six stained glass windows in place of the plain glass before in use. The estimated cost of the renovation was about £300.

The re-opening ceremony took place on Friday, 13 May, 1910, the occasion also being utilised to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the pastorate of Mr. Joyce. The Rev. W. Hardy Harwood delivered the sermon at the afternoon service. At the evening gathering addresses

[1] *Congregational Year Book; Wellington Weekly News*, 18 May, 1910.
[2] *Wellington Weekly News*, 4 Aug. 1892; 25 Oct. 1911.

bearing on Mr. Joyce's twenty-fifth anniversary were delivered by the chairman, Mr. E. Lee Michell, of Wellington, Mr. G. E. Colthurst, the Rev. J. H. Cox, of Taunton, the Rev. W. Hardy Harwood, and the Rev. Sydney J. Jones, pastor of the South Street Baptist Church.[1]

In order to clear off the remainder of the debt, about £100, incurred by the renovations and alterations, a 'Pagoda' Bazaar was held, 17 and 18 June, 1910, in Mr. Egerton Burnett's grounds, 'The Avenue,' in South Street. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. J. Howard Fox, of Robin's Close, who reminded his hearers that his earliest recollection of a service in the Congregational Church was a good many years ago when the pulpit was occupied by a lady.[2] The amount realised was nearly £100. In November, 1910, it was announced that as the result of the bazaar, and the responses to appeals for subscriptions, the whole cost of the renovation of the Chapel, School-room, and Class-rooms, had been defrayed and that there was a balance in hand.

On 20 October, 1911, a meeting was held to celebrate the Jubilee of the present church and Sunday schools when the Rev. G. W. Joyce read an historical sketch descriptive of the Congregational Church and Sunday Schools in Wellington.

Statistics from the 'Congregational Year Book.'

Seating accommodation at Wellington, 600, Wrangway, 150.

Year Book.	Church Members	Scholars on Books.		Teachers.		Lay Preachers.	Secretary for the Somerset Union.
		Wellington.	Wrangway.	Wellington.	Wrangway.		
1900	—	185	47	22	10	5	The Pastor
1901	—	185	47	22	10	5	,, ,,
1902	—	—	47	—	10	—	,, ,,
1903		No Returns					C. W. Shapland
1904	165	194	31	23	8	5	F. J. Burnett
1905	191	195	33	21	6	7	,, ,,
1906	167	189	38	24	10	7	,, ,,
1907	166	178	39	22	6	7	Robert Giles
1908	166	178	39	22	6	7	,, ,,
1909		No Returns					,, ,,
1910	168	180	28	26	6	7	,, ,,
1911	168	167	30	25	6	7	,, ,,
1912	171	171	31	24	7	7	,, ,,

[1] Full report in *Wellington Weekly News*, 18 May, 1910.

[2] Probably refers to Mrs. Henry Dening (*née* Geraldine Hooper) who conducted services in the various chapels of Wellington in 1869 and 1870. See *Somerset County Gazette*, 24 April and 16 Oct., 1869; also *She Spake of Him*, being recollections of Mrs. Henry Dening, Bristol, 1872, p. 161.

THE REGISTERS.

The Registers of the Wellington Congregational Church containing the Births and Baptisms, 1786–1837, and Burials, 1812–1837, consist of three books bound together into one volume. This volume is preserved at Somerset House, London, and is numbered 84. It was deposited there for safe custody, with about 7000 other Registers concerning non-parochial churches. These Registers had been surrendered[1] to the Commissioners who were appointed, in 1836, to enquire into the state, custody, and authenticity of Non-Parochial Registers.

Prefixed to the volume containing the Wellington Congregationalists' Registers there is a statement, dated 13 July, 1837, signed by John Harcombe Cuff, certifying that the volume contained the 'Register Books of Births, Baptisms and Burials, which have been kept for the Chapel or Meeting House called the Lower-Meeting being of Presbyterian, now commonly called Independent denomination, situate in Wellington, county of Somerset, founded about the year 1730.'

The following information has been abstracted from these Registers at Somerset House.

BIRTHS AND BAPTISMS, 1786–1837.

George, son of Thos. & Grace Winter *was born on the* 27 Nov. *1786. and christened on the* 10 *Day of* Dec. *1786. Registered by me* John Giles.[2]

The above is a full entry, the following give the substance only.

Entries registered by John Giles:

John son of Wm. & Mary Babage, *b.* 25 Dec., 1784, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Molly, dau. of Saml. and Elizabeth Linnington, *b.* 24 Dec., 1783, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
William, son of Saml. and Eliz. Linnington, *b.* 10 Sept., 1785, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Mary, dau. of Wm. and Jane Hickman, *b.* 9 Oct., 1786, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Samuel, son of Benjn. and Mary Glass, *b.* 20 March, 1786, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Thomas, son of Thomas and Sarah Thorne, *b.* 31 Jan., 1784, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Sarah, dau. of John and Mary Allen, *b.* 21 Oct., 1786, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Sarah, dau. of Wm. and Betty Palmer, *b.* 27 Oct., 1786, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Hannah, dau. of Jno. and Mary Swain, *b.* 11 June, 1785, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
John, son of Jno. and Elizabeth Glass, *b.* 25 August, 1784, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
John, son of George and Ann Manfield, *b.* 25 Jan., 1786, *ch.* 10 Dec., 1786.
Mary, dau. of Thomas and Betty Martin, *b.* 8 Jan., 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
James, son of George and Mary Lapthorn, *b.* 8 Jan., 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
Sarah, dau. of Saml. and Elizabeth Linnington, *b.* 25 June, 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.

[1] They were sent to the Commissioners by the Rev. J. H. Cuff, 14 July, 1837, see p. 383.
[2] The words in italics represent the printed form used in this register.

Mary, dau. of John and Betty Baker, *b.* 15 Sept., 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
Mary, dau. of John and Mary Swain, *b.* 6 May, 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
Richd., son of Nicholas and Elizabeth Tucker, *b.* 26 Sept., 1785, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
Sarah, dau. of Joseph and Sally Pine, *b.* 14 June, 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
Jemima, dau. of Jno. and Jane Giles, *b.* 22 June, 1787, *ch.* 28 Oct., 1787.
Wm., son of Henry and Elizth. Caswill [*i.e.* Carswell], *b.* 29 Nov., 1787, *ch.* 20 Jan., 1788.
Mary, dau. of Geo. and Ann Mansfield, *b.* 9 Jan., 1788, *ch.* 20 Jan., 1788.
Mary, dau. of Nicholas and Elizth. Tucker, *b.* 18 May, 1788, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1788.
Mary, dau. of Jno. and Sarah Job, *b.* 13 Feb., 1788, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1788.
Wm., son of James and Anne Pulsford, *b.* 27 Aug., 1788, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1788.
Wm., son of Thos. and Sarah Thorn, *b.* 20 May, 1788, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1788.
Polly, dau. of Thos. and Mary Baker, *b.* 27 May, 1788, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1788.
Hannah, dau. of Richd. and Mary Job, *b.* 15 June, 1788, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1788.
Mark Broadfoot, son of Mark and Margarett Westron, *b.* *ch.* 25 Dec., 1788.
Jno., son of Wm. and Elizth. Pulsford, *b.* 7 Nov., 1788, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Sarah, dau. of Jno. and Mary Allen, *b.* 28 Nov., 1788, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Elizth., dau. of Saml. and Elizth. Linnington, *b.* 22 Jan., 1789, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Jane, dau. of Thos. and Mary Bartlett, *b.* 12 Jan., 1789, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Jno., son of Thos. and Mary Dorom, *b.* 13 Feb., 1789, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Henry, son of Edwd. and Grace Clark, *b.* 26 Dec., 1788, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Jane, dau. of James and Mary Lapthorn, *b.* 6 Feb., 1789, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1789.
Hannah, dau. of Tho. and Betty Martin, *b.* 17 March, 1789, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1789.
Wm., son of Peter and Rachel Wakeham, *b.* 25 March, 1789, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1789.
Phillip, son of Jno. and Betty Baker, *b.* 23 April, 1789, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1789.
Fanny, dau. of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 3 May, 1789, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1789.
Hannah, dau. of Wm. and Hannah Powell, *b.* 15 July, 1789, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1789.
Peach, son of John and Jane Giles, *b.* 19 June, 1789, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1789.
Anne, dau. of Jno. and Anne Towse, *b.* 7 Nov., 1789, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Betty, dau. of Jno. and Susannah Coles, *b.* 1 March, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Clematt, son of Clematt and Anne Snook, *b.* 30 April, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Robert, son of Jno. and Anne Hallett, *b.* 1 May, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Mariah, dau. of Jno. and Elinor Ackland, *b.* 19 May, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Wm., son of Wm. and Betty Pulsford, *b.* 29 May, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Elizth., dau. of Richd. and Anne Calway, *b.* 24 June, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Thos., son of Thos. and Jane Frost, *b.* 27 July, 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Anne, dau. of Mark and Margaret Westron, *b.* 4 Aug., 1790, *ch.* 31 Dec., 1790.
Sarah, dau. of Nicholas and Betty Tucker, *b.* 14 Aug., 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Jane, dau. of James and Anne Pulsford, *b.* 28 Sept., 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Jane Jarmin, dau. of Saml. and Eliz. Linnington, *b.* 9 Sept., 1790, *ch.* 28 Nov., 1790.
Narcissa, dau. of Jno. and Jane Giles, *b.* 13 Feb., 1791, *ch.* 10 Aug., 1791.
Francis, son of Jno. and Mary Southerton, *b.* 12 April, 1778, *ch.* 12 May, 1778.
Mary, dau. of Jno. and Mary Southerton, *b.* 30 Jan., 1782, *ch.* 28 Feb., 1782.
Charlotte, dau. of Jno. and Mary Southerton, *b.* 8 Nov., 1784, *ch.* 9 Dec., 1784.
Sarah Caroline, dau. of Jno. and Mary Southerton, *b.* 4 May, 1780, *ch.* 7 June, 1786.
Emma, dau. of Jno. and Mary Southerton, *b.* 13 Sept., 1787, *ch.* 10 Aug., 1791.
Elizabeth, dau. of Jno. and Mary Southerton, *b.* 27 Aug., 1790, *ch.* 10 Aug., 1791.
Mary, dau. of Jno. and Grace Timewell, *b.* 8 Nov., 1785, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
William, son of Jno. and Grace Timewell, *b.* 10 May, 1787, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
John, son of Jno. and Grace Timewell, *b.* 19 Dec., 1790, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Sarah, dau. of Jno. and Tacey Bennett, *b.* 3 Jan., 1785, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.

Mary, dau. of Jno. and Tacey Bennett, *b.* 3 Nov., 1787, *ch.* 28 Aug., 1787.[1]
Mellony, 'y^e^ son I suppose' of Jno. and Tracey[2] Bennet, *b.* 1 Feb., 1789, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Joseph, son of Jno. and Tracey[2] Bennett, *b.* 3 April, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
William, son of Thomas and Mary Waterman, *b.* 12 Sept., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Susanna, dau. of Jno. and Jane Tottle, *b.* 12 Feb., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
William, son of Nicholas and Hannah Fry, *b.* 21 Aug., 1782, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
John, son of Nicholas and Hannah Fry, *b.* 25 Dec., 1785, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
James, son of Nicholas and Hannah Fry, *b.* 25 Dec., 1787, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Agness, dau. of James and Susannah Alway, *b.* 11 Dec., 1790, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Honour, dau. of James and Susannah Fry, *b.* 11 March, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Elizabeth, dau. of Jno. and Mary Tooze, *b.* 27 June, 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of Jno. and Mary Allen, *b.* 20 June, 1791.
James, son of George and Ane Mansfield, *b.* 29 Jan., 1790, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Moses, son of George and Ane Mansfield, *b.* 28 Jan., 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 20 Jan., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Betty, dau. of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 20 April, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Thomas, son of George and Mary Lapthorn, *b.* 24 March, 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of Robert and Joan Snook, *b.* 9 Sept., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Ane, dau. of John and Elizabeth Baker, *b.* 23 March, 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Betty, dau. of Edward and Grace Clarke, *b.* 4 April, 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Isaac, son of —— and Hannah Raw, *b.* 16 June, 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Elizabeth, dau. of Wm. and Elizabeth Pulsford, *b.* 27 Dec., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of George and Sarah Cape, *b.* 7 Dec., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of Thos. and Mary Baker, *b.* 8 May, 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Sarah Bond, dau. of Jno. and Sarah Pine, *b.* 17 Nov., 1790, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of Benjamin and Joan Hallet, *b.* 11 Aug., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
James, son of Royal and Elizabeth Coram, *b.* 29 Feb., 1791, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Hannah, dau. of Royal and Elizabeth Coram, *b.* 29 March, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
John Bellett, son of William and Sarah Shattock, *b.* 19 May, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Samuel, son of Jno. and Mary Swain, *b.* 23 , 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Henry, son of Jno. and Ane Hallett, *b.* 17 March, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Elizabeth, dau. of Peter and Rachel Wakeham, *b.* 5 Feb., 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Edward, son of Thos. and Mary Doram, *b.* 22 April, 1792, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1792.
William, son of Jno. and Jane Stephens, *b.* 17 April, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
William, son of Robert and Ane Lane, *b.* 25 May, 1792, *ch.* 26 Aug., 1792.
Mira Ann, dau. of Jno. and Jane Giles, *b.* 17 June, 1794, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Sarah, dau. of Thos. and Elizabeth Marting, *b.* 22 Oct., 1779, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Jno., son of Jno. and Susanna Cole, *b.* 3 Dec., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
John, son of Jno. and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 22 Nov., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Jno., son of Jno. and Mary Perry, *b.* 9 Nov., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Sarah, daughter of Jno. and Grace Timewell, *b.* 12 April, 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Jno., son of Benjamin and Joan Hallett, *b.* 1 Jan., 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
James, son of —— and Hannah Powel, *b.* 5 Nov., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Wm. Collard, son of Joseph and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 25 Jan., 1791, *ch.* 21 Sept. 1794.
Anne, dau. of Joseph and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 14 Sept., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Elizabeth Tucker, *b.* 19 Jan., 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
James, son of Jno. and Mary Tooze, *b.* 13 April, 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.

[1] No doubt wrong date. Probably a clerical error for 26 Aug., 1792.
[2] As in register, although preceding entries give 'Tacey.'

Thos., son of —— and Betty Dummett, *b.* 26 Aug., 1791, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Elizabeth Tucker, *b.* 27 June, 1794, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Wm., son of Edward and Joan Pleas, *b.* 4 March, 1786, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Edward, son of Edward and Joan Pleas, *b.* 6 Dec., 1788, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Mary, dau. of Edward and Joan Pleas, *b.* 15 Feb., 1791, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Leah, dau. of Edward and Joan Pleas, *b.* 2 Aug., 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
George, son of George and Ann Mansfield, *b.* 15 July, 1794, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Elizabeth, dau. of George and Mary Lapthorn, *b.* 28 Aug., 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Mallenar, dau. of —— and Susannah Fouracre, *b.* 6 Jan., 1783, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Robert, son of James and Johannah Parsons, *b.* 10 Oct., 1787, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Betty, dau. of James and Johannah Parsons, *b.* 23 Jan., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Jno., son of Jno. and Elenor Ackland, *b.* 2 Oct., 1792, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Robert, son of Robt. and Tamzin Tottle, *b.* 30 Jan., 1794, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Baker, son of James and Susannah Allway, *b.* 21 July, 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Elizabeth, dau. of Jno. and Tacey Bennett, *b.* 30 July, 1794, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Sarah, dau. of Jno. and Mary Swain, *b.* 5 Sept., 1794, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.
Jno., son of Jno. and Grace Stephens, *b.* 17 Oct., 1793, *ch.* 21 Sept., 1794.

To here all entries are registered by JOHN GILES. From here the entries are registered by WILLIAM PULSFORD.

Ann, dau. of Edw. and Grace Clarke, *b.* 29 Dec., 1792, *ch.* 12 June, 1796.
Edward, son of Edward and Grace Clarke, *b.* 17 Dec., 1794, *ch.* 12 June, 1796.
Elizth., dau. of James and Elizth. Clarke, *b.* 12 Nov., 1794, *ch.* 12 June, 1796.
Sarah, dau. of Robt. and Ann Austin, *b.* 18 May, 1794, *ch.* 12 June, 1796.
Thomas, son of Jno. and Elenor Ackland, *b.* 31 May, 1795, *ch.* [no date].
John, son of John and Mary Allen, *b.* 12 Oct., 1796, *ch.* [no date].
Thomas, son of John and Jane Stephens, *b.* 13 Aug., 1795, *ch.* [no date].
Robt, son of Wm. and Tamz. Tottle, *b.* 30 Jan., 1794, *ch.* [no date].
Henry, son of Wm. and Tamz. Tottle, *b.* 3 Mar., 1794, *ch.* [no date].
George, son of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 25 Oct., 1795, *ch.* [no date].
William, son of John and Sarah Parsons, *b.* 22 July, 1792 [no date].
Thomas, son of James and Ann Pulsford, *b.* 9 May, 1796, *ch.* [no date].
Susanna, dau. of Robt. and Ann Austin, *b.* 2 Aug., 1787, *ch.* 12 June, 1796.

The following entries are signed by WILLIAM HARRINGTON[1]:

Grace, dau. of Edwd. and Grace Clarke, *b.* 11 Feb., 1798, *ch.* 24 June, 1798.
Jane, dau. of James Clark, *b.* 16 April, 1797, *ch.* 24 June, 1798.
'Jane Pulsford, Saml. Woodrow was born 22 May 1805.' Christened 24 June 1798.[2]

The following entries are signed by DANIEL TYERMAN:

Mary, dau. of John and Elizabeth Tottill, *b.* 8 March, 1793, registered 30 Aug.
Sarah, dau. of John and Elizabeth Tottill, *b.* 11 March, 1795, registered 30 Aug.
John, son of John and Elizabeth Tottill, *b.* 20 June, 1797, registered 30 Aug.
Wm., son of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 28 Dec., 1794, *ch.* 30 Aug.
Christiana, dau. of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 12 July, 1797, *ch.* 30 Aug.
Thos., son of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 12 May, 1799, *ch.* 30 Aug.
Edward, son of Wm. and Mary Doaram, *b.* 17 Sept., 1790, *ch.* 30 Aug., 1792.
Mary, dau. of Benjamin and Prue Calborrow, *b.* 27 July, 1791, *ch.* 30 Aug., 1805.

[1] Probably the minister from Winsham.
[2] It is difficult to understand what is meant by this entry.

(Adult) Elizabeth, dau. of Elizabeth and Richd. Eveleigh, *b.* 10 Sept., 1784, *ch.* 2 June, 1808. (This entry signed by Philip Parsons.)
Charles Rich, son of Daniel and Elizth. Tyerman, *b.* 16 Aug., 1800, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
John, son of Robt. and Elizabeth Furze, *b.* 7 Sept., 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Samuel, son of Saml. and Elizabeth Linnington, *b.* 5 Feb., 1795, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Ann, dau. of John and Hannah Woodrow, *b.* 10 Dec., 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Jno., son of —— Woodrow, *b.* 11 March, 1802, *ch.*
Robert, son of James and Ann Pulsford, *b.* 7 May, 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Mary Ann, dau. of William and Ann Mogford, *b.* 5 Oct., 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Mary, dau. of John and Ann Hallett, *b.* 24 Oct., 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Ann, dau. of John and Jane Potter, *b.* 9 Nov., 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Mary, dau. of James and Joannah Parsons, *b.* 21 Nov., 1799, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Edward, son of John and Elizabeth Tottell, *b.* 8 March, 1800, *ch.* 24 Aug., 1800.
Mary, dau. of Wm. and Thamazin Tottle, *b.* 13 June, 1799, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Elizabeth Pyne, dau. of Wm. and Sarah Buller, in the parish of Thorn, *b.* 21 March, 1800, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Thomas, son of George and Ann Mansfield, *b.* 8 June, 1799, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
John, son of James and Ann Twooze, *b.* 7 July, 1800, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Sarah, dau. of —— Baker, *b.* 20 Oct., 1799, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Anna, dau. of John and Mary Allen, *b.* 10 March, 1800, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Sarah, dau. of Robt. and Elizabeth Trickey, *b.* 27 Dec., 1797, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Ann, dau. of James and Mary Perry, *b.* 5 Oct., 1794, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
Henry, son of James and Mary Perry, *b.* 3 May, 1799, *ch.* 31 Aug., 1800.
(Adult) Sarah, dau. of George and Hannah Oatway, *b.* 24 May, 1772, *ch.* 24 Oct., 1800.
(Adult) Phil., son of Robt. and Sarah Parsons, *b.* 7 June, 1770, *ch.* 19 Dec., 1800.
Tacey, dau. of John and Tacey Bennet, *b.* 27 Nov., 1800, *ch.* 12 Jan., 1801.
Eliza, dau. of John and Elizabeth Baker, *b.* 10 Sept., 1800, *ch.* 1 March, 1801.
Eliza, dau. of James and —— Baker, *b.* 27 Dec., 1800, *ch.* 1 March, 1801.
Lydia, dau. of Edward and Grace Clark, *b.* 22 Sept., 1800, *ch.* 1 March, 1801.
Richard, son of Jno. and Hannah Dyke, *b.* 15 March, 1801, *ch.* 8 Oct., 1801.
William, son of John and Susanna Frost, *b.* 23 Oct., 1801, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
James, son of Thos. and Ann Stock, *b.* 23 Sept., 1801, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
Mary Ann, dau. of Jos. and Mary Tuttell, *b.* 5 July, 1801, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
Edward, son of Nicholas and Betty Tucker, *b.* 23 Feb., 1797, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
John, son of John and Sarah Tucker, *b.* 14 Oct., 1801, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
John, son of Abm. and Ann Pyne, *b.* 19 Sept., 1794, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
Mary, dau. of Abm. and Ann Pyne, *b.* 13 April, 1796, *ch.* 15 Nov.. 1801.
Charles, son of Abm. and Anne Pyne, *b.* 3 Dec., 1797, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
Grace Palmer, dau. of Abm. and Anne Pyne, *b.* 25 Jan., , *ch.* 15 Nov., 1801.
Edward, son of Wm. and Betty Pulsford, *b.* 5 Nov., 1797, *ch.* 1 Jan., 1802.
Jane, dau. of Wm. and Betty Pulsford, *b.* 23 April, 1799, *ch.* 1 Jan.. 1802.
Ann, dau. of Wm. and Betty Pulsford, *b.* 19 Jan., 1801, *ch.* 1 Jan., 1802.
Thos., son of Jas. and Grace Lane, *b.* 14 Sept., 1792, *ch.* 28 Sept., 1792.
Elizabeth, dau. of Abraham and Ann Pyne, *b.* 14 July, 1802, *ch.* 1 Jan., 1802.[1]
Obed, son of Obed and Mary Jordan, *b.* 30 June, 1798, *ch.* 2 May, 1802.
Robert, son of Obed and Mary Jordan, *b.* 9 April, 1802, *ch.* 2 May, 1802.
William, son of John and Mary Baker, *b.* 8 Jan., 1802, *ch.* 2 May, 1802.
Sarah Ann Rich, dau. of Daniel and Elizabth. Tyerman, *b.* 15 March, 1802, *ch.* 2 May, 1802.

[1] These dates are evidently wrong.

Harriet Hews, dau. of Richd. and Elizabh. White of Sixpenny Handley, co. Dorset, *b.* 14 Sept., 1802, *ch.* 20 Oct., 1802.
William, son of John and Elena Ackland, *b.* 25 March, 1801, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
John, son of Wm. and Tamozin Tottle, *b.* 29 Jan., 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
John, son of Richd. and Ann Calway, *b.* 13 April, 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
James, son of Edward and Grace Clarke, *b.* 23 Sept., 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Mary, dau. of Peter and Mary Bishop, *b.* 16 June, 1800, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Ann, dau. of Peter and Mary Bishop, *b.* 26 July, 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Wm., son of George and Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 11 Feb., 1798, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Robert, son of George and Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 11 Feb., 1798, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Maria, dau. of George and Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 7 May, 1801, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
James, son of John and Elizabeth Tottle, *b.* 8 Oct., 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Ann, dau. of John and Ann Hallett, *b.* 30 Aug., 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
James, son of William and Mary Thorne, *b.* 14 Jan., 1801, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Phillip, son of Phil. and Betty Parsons, *b.* 12 Aug., 1798, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Mary Ann, dau. of Phil. and Betty Parsons, *b.* 15 June, 1801, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
Sarah, dau. of John and Jane Potter, *b.* 18 June, 1802, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
John, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 29 March, 1800, *ch.* 5 Nov., 1802.
George, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 22 Nov., 1802, *ch.* 5 Dec., 1802.
Wm., son of Willm. and Ann Mogford, *b.* 16 May, 1802, *ch.* 5 Dec., 1802.
Thos., son of Wm. and Betty Pulsford, *b.* 11 Jan., 1803, *ch.* 20 March, 1804.

The following entries are signed by J. D. Maddon:

George, son of James and Ann Pulsford, *b.* 30 May, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
John, son of John and Jane Potter, *b.* 24 July, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Thomas, son of Thomas and Hanh. Pyne, *b.* 24 Feb., 1797, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Rachel, dau. of Thomas and Hanh. Pyne, *b.* 15 Dec., 1787, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Thomas, son of Alexander and Martha Allen, *b.* 6 April, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
James, son of James and Elizth. Clarke, *b.* 21 Sept., 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Ann, dau. of John and Mary Baker, *b.* 6 April, 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
John, son of Phillip and Elizh. Parsons, *b.* 20 May, 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
James, son of James and Elizh. Tucker, *b.* 6 Oct., 1802, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Ann, dau. of John and Susanna Frost, *b.* 28 Oct., 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.[1]
Henry, son of Edward and Mary Giles, *b.* 27 Jan., 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Mary Holcombe Aricot, dau., *b.* 27 Dec., 1807, *ch.* 24 Feb., 1808. (Entry signed by Philip Parsons.)
Hannah, dau. of John and Elizh. Baker, *b.* 1804. (Unsigned.)
Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas and Ann Glass, *b.* 20 June, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
John, son of John and Tacey Bennett, *b.* 12 March, 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Martha, dau. of John and Dorothy Spiller, *b.* 30 March, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Mary, dau. of John and Mary Tooze, *b.* 7 Feb., 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Betsy, dau. of James and Mary Coram, *b.* 13 May, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Mary, dau. of John and Mary How, *b.* 25 Sept., 1809, *ch.* 4 Feb., 1810. (Entry signed by P. Parsons.)
Elizh., dau. of John and Dorothy Spiller, *b.* 11 Feb., 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Joseph, son of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 18 Aug., 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Ann, dau. of Thomas and Sarah Perry, *b.* 14 Sept., 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804. (Signed by Wm. Lewis.)
Abraham, son of Abraham and Ann Pyne, *b.* 29 Nov., 1803, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.

[1] These dates are evidently wrong although like this in the register.

Thomas, son of Philip and Betty Parsons, *b.* 14 Oct., 1807, *ch.* 19 Feb., 1809. (Signed by Phil. Parsons.)
Hannah, dau. of Wm. and Mary Thorne, *b.* 2 June, 1804, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.
Jane, dau. of John and Elizh. Baker. (Unsigned.)
Tacey, dau. of John and Tacey Bennett, *b.* 22 Nov., 1800, *ch.* 21 Oct., 1804.

The following entries are signed by W. Lewis:

William, son of Wm. and Sarah Buller, *b.* 21 Aug., 1809,[1] *ch.* 4 Aug., 1805.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Elizabeth Tucker, *b.* 30 Jan., 1805, *ch.* 4 Aug., 1805.
Henry, son of Phillip and Betty Parsons, *b.* 1 June, 1805, *ch.* 4 Aug., 1805.
James, son of Edward and Mary Giles, *b.* 4 March, 1805, *ch.* 4 Aug., 1805.
Sarah, dau. of John and Mary Baker, *b.* 12 May, 1805, *ch.* 4 Aug., 1805.
Samuel, son of John and Mary Allen, *b.* 21 April, 1803, *ch.* 4 Aug., 1805.
Robert, son of William and Mary Thorne, *b.* 4 Dec., 1804, *ch.* 22 Dec., 1805.
Hannah, dau. of Wm. and Sarah Buller, *b.* 17 Nov., 1805, *ch.* 22 Dec., 1805.
Mary, dau. of Thomas and Sara Perry, *b.* 29 Sep., 1805, *ch.* 22 Dec., 1805.

The following entries are signed by William Bannister:

Ann, dau. of Abraham and Ann Pyne, *b.* 6 Jany., 1804, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.
Mary, dau. of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 25 Dec., 1806, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.
Ann, dau. of Samuel and Martha Fouracres, *b.* 18 Jan., 1807, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Betty Clarke, *b.* 30 July, 1805, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.
Ann, dau. of Jas. and Ann. Tooze, *b.* 4 Oct., 1806, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.

The following three entries signed by Richard Herdsman[2]:

James, son of James and Mary Curron [Coram], *b.* 1 April, 1810, *ch.* 3 June, 1810.
Mary, dau. of Benjn. and Ann Glass, *b.* 3 April, 1810, *ch.* 3 June, 1810.
James, son of James and Mary Fackrell, *b.* 23 May, 1810, *ch.* 3 June, 1810.

The following entries signed by William Huniburt:

Maria, dau. of Wm. and Elizabeth Pyne, *b.* 17 Jan., 1810, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Richard, son of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 31 May, 1809, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
John, son of Jno. and Mary Holland, *b.* 25 Dec., 1809, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Saml., son of Samuel and Martha Fouracre, *b.* 18 Sept., 1809, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Wm., son of Jno. and Mary Twose, *b.* 12 Dec., 1806, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Henry, son of Jno. and Mary Twose, *b.* 3 Sept., 1806,[3] *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Thomas, son of Jno. and Mary Twose, *b.* 20 Nov., 1809, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Thomas, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 10 Dec., 1809, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Rebekah, dau. of Wm. and Mary Roberts, *b.* 4 June, 1806, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.
Ann, dau. of Wm. and Mary Roberts, *b.* 21 Oct., 1808, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1810.

The following entries signed by Isaac Tozer[4]:

Jas., son of Thomas and Mary Baker, *b.* 18 Oct., 1800, *ch.* 3 March, 1810.
Eliza, dau. of Thomas and Mary Baker, *b.* 3 Feb., 1803, *ch.* 3 March, 1810.
Wm., son of Thomas and Mary Baker, *b.* 25 Feb., 1806, *ch.* 3 March, 1810.
Emma, dau. of Jno. and Betty Baker, *b.* 22 Sept., 1806, *ch.* 3 March, 1810.
Thos. Bruford, son of Edward and Grace Clarke, *b.* 27 Nov., 1809, *ch.* 3 March, 1810.

[1] Evidently wrong year. [2] Minister at South Petherton. [3] Probably wrong year: see preceding entry. [4] Minister of Paul's Meeting, Taunton.

The following entries signed by Thomas Golden:

Richd., son of Robt. and Betty Furze, *b.* 19 Nov., 1808, *ch.* 19 Nov., 1810.
Ann Collard, dau. of Henry and Johanna Waldron, *b.* 9 Oct., 1810, *ch.* 19 Nov., 1810.
Mary, dau. of James and Sarah Twose, *b.* 7 July, 1810, *ch.* 19 Nov., 1810.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Mary Coram, *b.* 15 April, 1808, *ch.* 19 Nov., 1810.
Henry, son of Robt. and Jane Spiller, *b.* 3 Oct., 1810, *ch.* 19 Nov., 1810.
Wm., son of William and Jane Serrel, *b.* 31 May, 1810, *ch.* 19 Nov., 1810.

The following entries signed by Wm. Huniburt:

Jas., son of Jas. and Elizabeth Stradling, *b.* 26 Dec., 1811, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1811.[1]
Robt., son of Jno. and Mary How, *b.* 25 Dec., 1810, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1811.
Elizabeth, dau. of Jno. and Mary Baker, *b.* 13 Nov., 1810, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1811.

The following entry signed by Philip Parsons:

Hannah, dau. of James and Jane Wescot, *b.* 16 Aug., 1804, *ch.* 24 Sept., 1811.

The following entries signed by Joseph Buck[2]:

Ann, dau. of James and Elizabth. Clarke, *b.* 3 April, 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
Edward, son of James and Elizath. Clarke, *b.* 9 June, 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
William, son of Isaac and Mary Pyne, *b.* 9 June, 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
Hannah, dau. of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 12 Feb., 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
Martha, dau. of William and Joan Davis, *b.* 6 Feb., 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
Susannah, dau. of Abraham and Anne Pyne, *b.* 19 June, 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
John, son of John and Ann Lang, *b.* 25 April, 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
William, son of Philip and Elizabeth Parsons, *b.* 5 Sept., 1810, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.
Eliza, dau. of William and Susanna Beardon, *b.* 8 June, 1811, *ch.* 25 Aug., 1811.

The following entries signed by Philip Parsons:

Mary, dau. of James and Elizabeth Lapthorne, *b.* 23 May, 1808, *ch.* 22 June, 1809.
Thos., son of Jno. and Mary Baker, *b.* 25 Jan., 1807, *ch.* 28 March, 1807.
Robt., son of Abraham and Ann Pyne, *b.* 3 June, 1808, *ch.* 18 Sept., 1811.
James, son of Robt. and Elizabeth Furze, *b.* 4 Dec., 1806, *ch.* 18 Sept., 1811.
Jno., son of Jno. and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 8 Aug., 1808, *ch.* 22 March, 1809.
Hanna, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 28 July, 1806, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.
Wm., son of James and Ann Goff, *b.* 6 Aug., 1806, *ch.* 22 March, 1807.
Sarah, dau. of Jno. and Mary Baker, *b.* 26 Dec., 1808, *ch.* 4 Feb., 1809.
Ann, dau. of Jno. and Elizabeth Gregory, *b.* 17 June, 1807, *ch.* 27 May, 1808.
Jno., son of James and Betty Clarke, *b.* 23 Nov., 1807, *ch.* 14 Feb., 1808.
Anna, dau. of William and Sarah Buller, *b.* 17 Dec., 1807, *ch.* 14 Feb., 1808.
Thos., son of William and Joan Manley, *b.* 14 Sept., 1806, *ch.* 14 Feb., 1807.
Susan, dau. of Royal and Betty Corran [*i.e.* Coram], *b.* 4 June, 1808, *ch.* 14 Feb., 1809.
Wm., son of Thos. and Ann Pring, *b.* 18 Nov., 1806, *ch.* 14 Feb., 1807.
Mary, dau. of Wm. and Mary Serle, *b.* 26 Feb., 1809, *ch.* 4 June, 1809.
Thos., son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 10 March, 1808, *ch.* 4 June.
Wm., son of Wm. and ——, *b.* 6 Nov., 1808, *ch.* 29 Nov., 1809.
Robt. Potter, son of ——, *b.* 29 Dec., 1807, *ch.* 29 May, 1808.
Elizabeth, dau. of Jas. and Anstis Chadwell, *b.* 16 July, 1807, *ch.* 13 Dec., 1809.

[1] These dates are wrong although as per register. [2] Minister of the Congregational Church at Wiveliscombe.

Anstis, dau. of Jas. and Anstis Chadwell, *b.* 17 May, 1809, *ch.* 13 Dec., 1809.
Henry Valentine, son of Wm. and Susanna Beardon, *b.* 22 Dec., 1808, *ch.* 15 Feb., 1809.
Sillina, dau. of Robt. and Hannah Spiller, *b.* 12 Jan., 1799, *ch.* 15 Feb., 1809.
Mary, dau. of Robt. and Hannah Spiller, *b.* 25 May, 1801, *ch.* 15 Feb., 1809.
Joel, son of Robt. and Hannah Spiller, *b.* 11 Jan., 1804, *ch.* 15 Feb., 1809.
John, son of Robt. and Hannah Spiller, *b.* 30 July, 1806, *ch.* 15 Feb., 1809.
Robert, son of Jno. and Sarah Tucker, *b.* 22 June, 1805, *ch.* 22 Dec., 1805.
John, son of Jno. and Betty Greenslade, *b.* 5 May, 1812, *ch.* 8 Sept., 1812.
Elizabeth, dau. of Wm. and Elizabeth Bird, *b.* 15 April, 1804, *ch.* 8 Sept., 1812.
Sarah, dau. of Wm. and Elizabeth Bird, *b.* 14 June, 1812, *ch.* 8 Sept., 1812.

The following signed by JOHN H. CUFF:

Anne, dau. of James and Sarah Towes [*i.e.* Twose], *b.* 24 Sept., 1812, *ch.* 16 May, 1813.
Ann, dau. of John and Sarah Pring, *b.* 23 Dec., 1811, *ch.* 16 May, 1813.
Elizabeth, son of Philip and Elizabeth Parsons, *b.* 2 Nov., 1812, *ch.* 16 May, 1813.
John, son of Isaac and Mary Pyne, *b.* 13 Mar., 1813, *ch.* 16 May, 1813.
Thomas, son of William and Jane Serle, *b.* 18 Dec., 1812, *ch.* 16 May, 1813.
Jane, dau. of John and Dorothy Holley, *b.* 30 May, 1808, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Eliza, dau. of John and Dorothy Holley, *b.* 21 Feb., 1810, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Sarah, dau. of John and Dorothy Holley, *b.* 3 July, 1812, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Eliza, dau. of John and Elizabeth Tottell, *b.* 13 Mar., 1811, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Elizabeth Forward, dau. of John and Elizabeth Tottell, *b.* 20 Feb., 1813, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Henry Walter, son of John and Harriet Sharland, *b.* 28 Dec., 1811, *ch.* 3 Oct. 1813.
Mary, dau. of James and Elizabeth Blackmore, *b.* 20 Mar., 1803, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Ann, dau. of James and Elizabeth Blackmore, *b.* 18 Mar., 1806, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Jane Ann, dau. of James and Sarah Fackrell, *b.* 17 May, 1813, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Ann, dau. of Robert and Elizabeth Furze, *b.* 18 May, 1812, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
John, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 5 Aug., 1813, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
George, son of George and Mary Thorne, *b.* 10 Aug., 1812, *ch.* 3 Oct., 1813.
Joanna, dau. of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 9 July, 1813, *ch.* 14 Nov., 1813.
Susan, dau. of John and Elizabeth Harvey, *b.* 27 Oct., 1812, *ch.* 14 Nov., 1813.
Harriet, dau. of Robt. and Maria Coleman, *b.* 2 Oct., 1813, *ch.* 14 Nov., 1813.
Sarah Syle, dau. of Edward and Grace Clarke, *b.* 14 Dec., 1813, *ch.* 5 Feb., 1814.
James, son of James and Mary How, *b.* 16 Oct., 1813, *ch.* 5 Feb., 1814.
Jane, dau. of Joseph and Ann Wood, *b.* 18 Feb., 1810, *ch.* 5 Feb., 1814.
Jane, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 17 June, 1812, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
William, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 22 Dec., 1812, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
Elizabeth, dau. of Henry and Mary Simes, *b.* 16 Dec., 1813, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
Martha, dau. of Abraham and Ann Pyne, *b.* 12 Feb., 1814, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
Hannah, dau. of George and Mary Thorne, *b.* 4 Feb., 1814, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
Sarah Pyne, dau. of William and Sarah Buller, *b.* 18 Dec., 1813, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
James, son of Isaac and Elizabeth Long, *b.* 6 March, 1814, *ch.* 1 May, 1814.
Mary, dau of Oliver and Sarah Cloade, *b.* 20 Nov., 1806, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
Elizabeth, dau. of Oliver and Sarah Cloade, *b.* 7 May, 1810, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
Susan, dau. of Oliver and Sarah Cloade, *b.* 23 May, 1814, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
Mary, dau. of John and Lydia Pulsford, *b.* 31 Aug., 1808, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
Henry, son of James and Elizh. Clarke, *b.* 15 May, 1814, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.

John, son of Thomas and Ann Chappel, *b.* 1 April, 1814, *ch.* 24 July, 1814.
William, son of Parnassas and Joan Boit, *b.* 3 April, 1804, *ch.* 24 July, 1814.
Elizabeth, dau. of John and Elizh. Wide, *b.* 8 Dec., 1813, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
John, son of John and Elizh. Wide, *b.* 21 Jan., 1811, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
Sarah Downing, dau. of Joshua Harcombe and Martha Stark Cuff, *b.* 7 June, 1814, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1814.
Sarah, dau. of James and Mary Coram, *b.* 19 June, 1814, *ch.* 24 July, 1814.
Henry, son of Robt. and Hannah Spiller, *b.* 25 Mar., 1814, *ch.* 12 June, 1814.
John, son of John and Mary Wood, *b.* 21 Nov., 1811, *ch.* 2 Oct., 1814.
William Parsons, son of Thomas and Mary Cockram, *b.* 20 Aug., 1814, *ch.* 2 Oct., 1814.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Elizabeth Pulsford, *b.* 18 Oct., 1814, *ch.* 13 Nov., 1814.
William, son of Saml. and Betty Winter, *b.* 30 Sept., 1814, *ch.* 13 Nov., 1814.
Ann, dau. of John and Sarah Yandel, *b.* 19 Feb., 1814, *ch.* 13 Nov., 1814.
William, son of William and Lydia Hardy, *b.* 14 Sept., 1815, *ch.* 13 Nov., 1814.[1]
John Coles, son of Elizabeth and Richd. Maderick, *b.* 2 July, 1814, *ch.* 24 July, 1814.
Henry Carrow, son of Wm. and Sarah Carrow, *b.* 9 Nov., 1814, *ch.* 8 Jany., 1815.
Thos., son of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 27 June, 1813, *ch.* 8 Jany., 1815.
Eliza, dau. of John and Sarah Pring, *b.* 25 Nov., 1814, *ch.* 5 Feb., 1815.
William, son of Robt. and Margt. Brown, *b.* 21 Feb., 1815, *ch.* 26 Mar., 1815.
James, son of James and Sarah Towse, *b.* 3 Jan., 1815, *ch.* 30 April, 1815.
Robt., son of Robert and Elizabeth Furze, *b.* 15 Dec., 1814, *ch.* 3 Sept., 1815.
Sarah, dau. of John and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 11 June, 1815, *ch.* 3 Sept., 1815.
William, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 17 Aug., 1815, *ch.* 3 Dec., 1815.
James, son of Saml. and Martha Fouracre, *b.* 3 Dec., 1815, *ch.* 18 Feb., 1816.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Jane Serle, *b.* 17 Dec., 1815, *ch.* 18 Feb., 1816.
Jane, dau. of Philip and Betty Parsons, *b.* 2 Sept., 1815, *ch.* 18 Feb., 1816.
Mary, dau. of William and Sarah Bullar, *b.* 9 Jan., 1816, *ch.* 18 Feb., 1816.
Daniel, son of Thomas and Ann Glass, *b.* 21 Nov., 1809, *ch.* 18 Feb., 1816.
Thomas, son of Thomas and Ann Glass, *b.* 3 Jan., 1813, *ch.* 4 March, 1816.
James, son of Thomas and Ann Glass, *b.* 24 July, 1815, *ch.* 18 Feb., 1816.
Robert, son of William and Elizabeth Bird, *b.* 17 July, 1815, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
Charles, son of John and Sarah Roost, *b.* 1 Feb., 1816, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
Nicholas, son of Nicholas and Elizabeth Tucker, *b.* 20 Feb., 1816, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
Willm. Syle, son of Thos. and Ann Marshall, *b.* 18 April, 1815, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
Sarah, dau. of Isaac and Mary Pyne, *b.* 14 Dec., 1815, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
William Collard, son of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 10 July, 1809.
Maria, dau. of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 29 Jan., 1812.
Sarah, dau. of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 25 Dec., 1814.
Henry, son of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 8 April, 1816, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
Hannah, dau. of William and Elizth. Pulsford, *b.* 4 March, 1816, *ch.* 12 May, 1816.
Maria, dau. of William and Betty Pyne, *b.* 10 May, 1816, *ch.* 30 June, 1816.
Sarah, dau. of James and Jane Yolland, *b.* 15 Nov., 1815, *ch.* 30 June, 1816.
John, son of John and Elizabeth Harvey, *b.* 16 Nov., 1815.
Ann, dau. of John and Hannah Gillard, *b.* 12 July, 1816, *ch.* 4 Aug., 1816.
Betsy, dau. of Robt. and Jane Spiller, *b.* 30 March, 1816, *ch.* 30 June, 1816.
Ann, dau. of James and Mary Coram, *b.* 28 Aug., 1816, *ch.* 15 Sept., 1816.

[1] Wrong dates in register.

Hope, dau. of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 9 March, 1816, *ch.* 15 Sept., 1816.
John, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 29 March, 1801.
George, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 22 Nov., 1802.
Maria, dau. of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 26 June, 1806.
Elisha, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 22 Nov., 1809.
Benjamin, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 23 Nov., 1811.
Aron, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 27 Aug., 1813.
} These names were given me by their Father 15 Sept. 1816. JOHN H. CUFF

William, son of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 27 July, 1815, *ch.* 15 Sept., 1816.
Hannah, dau. of James and Ann Pyne, *b.* 7 Aug., 1816, *ch.* 27 Oct., 1816.
William, son of Oliver and Sarah Cloade, *b.* 27 Sept., 1816, *ch.* 19 Jan., 1817.
James, son of William and Sarah Gonson [Johnson], *b.* 19 Jan., 1816.
William Symmond, son of James and Betty Clarke, *b.* 4 Sept., 1816, *ch.* 19 Jan., 1817.
John, son of Thomas and Ann Webber, *b.* 24 July, 1816, *ch.* 6 July, 1817.
Sarah, dau. of William and Sarah Carrow, *b.* 17 June, 1817, *ch.* 6 July, 1817.
John, son of Robert and Mary Russell, *b.* 22 April, 1817, *ch.* 6 July, 1817.
Frederick, son of John and Harriet Sharland, *b.* 16 May, 1817, *ch.* 27 Sept., 1817.
Mary Ann, dau. of Richard and Elizabeth Bridge, *b.* 28 March, 1816, *ch.* 28 Dec., 1817.
Sarah, dau. of George and Mary Thorne, *b.* 3 Oct., 1817, *ch.* 28 Dec., 1817.
Maria, dau. of Joanna and Henry Waldrone, *b.* 30 Jan., 1818, *ch.* 8 March, 1818.
Jane, dau. of Joseph and Honor Chorley, *b.* 4 May, 1814, *ch.* 26 April, 1818.
Henry, son of Joseph and Honor Chorley, *b.* 6 May, 1817, *ch.* 26 April, 1818.
William, son of Thomas and Amelia Ebdens, *b.* 28 Jan., 1806, *ch.* 26 April, 1818.
John, son of Thomas and Amelia Ebdens, *b.* 25 Nov., 1808, *ch.* 26 April, 1818.
Mary, dau. of Thomas and Amelia Ebdens, *b.* 6 April, 1813, *ch.* 26 April, 1818.
John Harcombe, son of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 16 April, 1818, *ch.* 17 May, 1818.
Mary, dau. of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 17 Nov., 1817, *ch.* ——, 1818.
Sarah, dau. of John and Mary How, *b.* 20 March, 1817, *ch.* 24 May, 1818.
John, son of John and Mary How, *b.* 24 June, 1815.
Charles, son of William and Elizabeth Pyne, *b.* 28 Dec., 1817, *ch.* 26 July, 1818.
John, son of John and Hannah Gillard, *b.* 31 May, 1818, *ch.* 26 July, 1818.
Jane, dau. of John and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 6 Dec., 1817, *ch.* 26 July, 1818.
Mary Ann, dau. of Robert and Margt. Brown, *b.* 15 Sept., 1818, *ch.* 4 Oct., 1818.
Ann, dau. of Thomas and Ann Marshall, *b.* 3 Nov., 1817, *ch.* 18 Oct., 1818.
Thomas, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 10 March, 1808.
Mary, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 3 April, 1810.
Jane, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 17 June, 1812.
William, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 22 Dec., 1813.
Ann, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 3 Dec., 1815.
John, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 28 April, 1818.
Abraham, son of William and Joan Jenkins, *ch.* 26 Jan., 1819. (An adult.)
John, son of James and Sarah Turner, *b.* 9 Dec., 1818, *ch.* 7 Feb., 1819.
William Collard, son of Wm. Collard and Anna Pyne, *b.* 13 Jan., 1819, *ch.* 7 Feb., 1819.
Sarah, dau. of William and Ann Slade, *b.* 28 May, 1814, *ch.* 7 Feb., 1819.
Robert, son of John and Mary How, *b.* 25 Dec., 1801.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Mary How, *b.* 26 Sept., 1809.
William, son of John and Elizabeth Tottle (junior, her maiden name Bennett), *b.* 3 March, 1819, *ch.* 3 April, 1819.

Ann, dau. of Abraham and Sarah Jenkins, *b.* 24 Feb., 1807.
Eliza, dau. of Abraham and Sarah Jenkins, *b.* 17 Nov., 1811.
Mary, dau. of Abraham and Sarah Jenkins, *b.* 29 July, 1818.
Samuel, son of James and Mary Coram, *b.* 29 July, 1819, *ch.* 24 Oct., 1819.
Richard Parminter, son of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 4 Sept., 1819, *ch.* 24 Oct., 1819.
George, son of William and Elizabeth Veals, *b.* 14 Oct., 1816, *ch.* 24 Oct., 1819.
Betsy, dau. of Ann and James Pyne, *b.* 31 Dec., 1819, *ch.* 23 Jan., 1820.
Mary, dau. of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 21 June, 1819, *ch.* 27 Feb., 1820.
Robt. Mead, son of James and Betty Clarke, *b.* 18 Nov., 1819, *ch.* 9 April, 1820.
Jane. dau. of William and Elizth. Pulsford, *b.* 16 Feb., 1820, *ch.* 9 April, 1820.
Henry, son of William and Jane Searle, *b.* 3 Dec., 1819, *ch.* 9 April, 1820.
Mary Ann, dau. of Robt. and Mary Blackmore, *b.* 19 Feb., 1820, *ch.* 30 April, 1820.
Jane, dau. of Thomas and Amelia Ebden, *b.* 23 Feb., 1820, *ch.* 21 May, 1820.
John, son of John and Hannah Gillerd, *b.* 4 May, 1820, *ch.* 21 May, 1820.
Clement, son of Joanna and Henry Waldron, *b.* 7 Jan., 1820, *ch.* 21 May, 1820.
Mary, dau. of William and Elizth. Pulsford, *b.* 14 Jan., 1818.
John, son of William and Sarah Clarke, *b.* 12 Jan., 1818.
William, son of Joseph and Mary Wood, *b.* 14 May, 1815, *ch.* 6 May, 1821.
William, son of John and Elizabeth Havery [*i.e.* Harvey], *b.* 5 Sept., 1818, *ch.* 20 Aug., 1820.
James, son of James and Elizth. Jenkins, *b.* 2 Mar., 1820, *ch.* 20 Aug., 1820.
John, son of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 18 Dec., 1819, *ch.* 20 Aug., 1820.
Henry Hall Palmer, son of Isaac and Mary Pyne, *b.* 12 Feb., 1820, *ch.* 20 Aug., 1820.
Henry, son of Thomas and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 7 June, 1809, *ch.* 8 Oct., 1820.
William, son of Thomas and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 25 April, 1815, *ch.* 8 Oct., 1820.
John, son of Thomas and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 8 Aug., 1818, *ch.* 8 Oct., 1820.
Sarah, dau. of Thomas and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 13 Sept., 1820, *ch.* 8 Oct., 1820.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Dorothy Holley, *b.* Oct., 1814.
Hannah, dau. of John and Dorothy Holley, *b.* 1 March, 1820, *ch.* 20 Aug., 1820.
Elizabeth, dau. of John and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 31 May, 1820, *ch.* 31 Dec., 1820.
William, son of William and Sarah Clarke, *b.* 17 Sept., 1819, *ch.* 31 Dec., 1820.
Robt. Cade, son of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 7 April, 1821, *ch.* 6 May, 1821.
David, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 13 March, 1821, *ch.* 6 May, 1821.
Elizabeth, dau. of Elizath. and William Pyne, *b.* Oct. 16th, 1820, *ch.* 6 May, 1821.
Grace, dau. of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 24 March, 1818, *ch.* 24 June, 1821.
William, son of John and Mary Cape, *b.* 12 Dec., 1820, *ch.* 24 June, 1821.
David, son of David and Ann Tottle, *b.* 18 May, 1821, *ch.* 24 June, 1821.
Samuel, son of Samuel and Ann Cates, *b.* 15 Jan., 1820, *ch.* 24 June, 1821.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Jane Rogers, *b.* 12 Mar., 1821, *ch.* 24 June, 1821.
Betty, dau. of John and Mary How, *b.* 15 Jan., 1819, *ch.* 24 June, 1821.
Jane, dau. of John and Mary How, parish of Cadbury, co. Devon, *b.* 20 Feb., 1821, *ch.* 13 Aug., 1821.
Ann, dau. of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 18 June, 1821, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1821.
John, son of William and Sarah Carrow, *b.* 2 Feb., 1820, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1821.
Ann, dau. of Philip and Betty Parsons, *b.* 4 Aug., 1818, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1821.
Robert, son of Philip and Betty Parsons, *b.* 4 Sept., 1821, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1821.
Anna, dau. of Robert and Mary Blackmore, *b.* 6 Aug., 1821, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1821.
Maria, dau. of William and Ann Glass, *b.* 30 June, 1816, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1821.
William, son of Robt. and Margt. Brown, *b.* 28 Oct., 1821, *ch.* 18 Nov., 1821.

BIRTHS AND BAPTISMS.

John Collard, son of William Collard and Anna Pyne, *b.* 16 Dec., 1821, *died* March, 1822.
Hannah, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 25 Oct., 1820.
Henry, son of James and Ann Pyne, *b.* 2 Jan., 1822, *ch.* 20 Jan., 1822.
Henry, son of George and Mary Thorne, *b.* 10 March, 1820, *ch.* 27 Jan., 1822.
James, son of George and Mary Thorne, *b.* 8 Jan., 1822, *ch.* 27 Jan., 1822.
Robert, son of John and Elizabeth Harvey, *b.* 11 Sept., 1821, *ch.* 27 Jan., 1822.
Mary Ann, dau. of William and Ann Pyne, *b.* 9 Jan., 1822, *ch.* 27 Jan., 1822.
John, son of Richard and Betty Madrick, *b.* 14 Sept., 1821, *ch.* 27 Jan., 1822.
Margaret Eveleigh, dau. of Henry and Jane Perry, *b.* 27 Sept., 1821, *ch.* 14 July, 1822.
Henry, son of John and Sarah Southey, *b.* 29 Sept., 1821, *ch.* 14 July, 1822.
Martha, dau. of James and Mary Coram, *b.* 3 May, 1822, *ch.* 14 July, 1822.
Ann, dau. of William and Elizth. Pulsford, *b.* 28 Jan., 1822, *ch.* 14 July, 1822.
John, son of Henry and Mary Hardy, *b.* 10 Feb., 1822, *ch.* 14 July, 1822.
Charles, son of Henry and Mary Hardy, *b.* 4 May, 1820.
Mary, dau. of Thomas and Sarah Pyne, *b.* 20 Oct., 1821.
Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas and Mary Bragg, *b.* 22 April, 1821, *ch.* 29 Sept., 1822.
Amos, son of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 4 Sept., 1822, *ch.* 29 Sept., 1822.
Philip, son of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 4 Sept., 1822, *ch.* 29 Sept., 1822.
George, son of John and Sarah Roast [Roost] of parish of West Buckland, *b.* 26 March, 1818, *ch.* 1 Dec., 1822.
James, son of John and Sarah Roast of parish of West Buckland, *b.* Oct. 28, 1820, *ch.* 1 Dec., 1822.
Downing Hosch, son of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 28 Oct., 1822, *ch.* 1 Dec., 1822.
Mary Ann, dau. of Nicholas and Elizabeth Tucker, *b.* 18 Aug., 1822, *ch.* 1 Dec., 1822.
Jemima, dau. of Robert and Jane Spiller, *b.* 20 April, 1822, *ch.* 1 Dec., 1822.
Sally, dau. of Robert and Jane Spiller, *b.* 28 Sept., 1818.
James, son of James and Ann Fry, *b.* 2 Sept., 1822, *ch.* 1 Dec., 1822.
Thomas, son of David and Ann Tottle, *b.* 13 March, 1823, *ch.* 4 May, 1823.
James, son of George and Mary Thorne, *b.* 19 April, 1823, *ch.* 4 May, 1823.
Betty, dau. of James and Betty Jenkins, *b.* 26 Nov., 1822, *ch.* 4 May, 1823.
Mary Collard, dau. of William Collard and Anna Pyne, *b.* 9 April, 1823, *ch.* 4 May, 1823.
Charles, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 25 May, 1823, *ch.* 22 June, 1823.
James, son of William and Jane Rogers, *b.* 28 March, 1823, *ch.* 22 June, 1823.
James, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 5 Feb., 1823, *ch.* 22 June, 1823.
Jane, dau. of Abraham and Ann Pyne, *b.* 13 Dec., 1818, *ch.* , 1819.
Elijah, son of William and Joan Jenkins, *ch.* 11 July, 1823. (An adult.)
Mary Ann, dau. of Joshua and Sarah Wright, *b.* 12 Jan., 1823, *ch.* 3 Aug., 1823.
James, son of Henry and Jane Perry, *b.* 16 Feb., 1823, *ch.* 3 Aug., 1823.
Henry, son of James and Ann Pyne, *b.* 28 Aug., 1823, *ch.* 14 Sept., 1823.
Mary, dau. of John and Hannah Lovell, *b.* 31 Aug., 1823, *ch.* 14 Sept., 1823.
James, son of Robert and Mary Blackmore, *b.* 28 Aug., 1823, *ch.* 9 Nov., 1823.
Philip, son of John and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 31 Nov., 1822, *ch.* 4 May, 1823.
Mary, dau. of John and Sarah Roost of West Buckland, *b.* 11 May, 1823, *ch.* 9 Nov., 1823.
Caroline, son of William and Ann Pyne, *b.* 8 Feb., 1824, *ch.* 29 Feb., 1824.
Harriet, dau. of John and Mary How, *b.* 14 April, 1824, *ch.* 16 May, 1824.

Charlotte, dau. of John and Mary How of Cadbury co. Devon, *b.* 11 July, 1822, *ch.* 13 June, 1824.
Elizabeth Downing, dau. of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 21 May, 1824, *ch.* 27 June, 1824.
John, son of William and Elizabeth Pulsford, *b.* 5 June, 1824, *ch.* 27 June, 1824.
Ann, dau. of David and Ann Tottle, *b.* 26 Oct., 1824, *ch.* 26 Dec., 1824.
John, son of William and Elizth. Thorne, *b.* 8 Dec., 1824, *ch.* 26 Dec., 1824.
John, son of John and Ann Bennett, *b.* 26 Sept., 1824, *ch.* 26 Dec., 1824.
Emma Joan, dau. of Thomas and Eliza Richards, of Milverton co. Somerset, *b.* 27 Jan., 1825, *ch.* 20 Feb., 1825.
John, son of Robert and Margaret Brown, *b.* 18 Feb., 1825, *ch.* 13 March, 1825.
Nicholas, son of Nicholas and Betty Tucker, *b.* 21 Dec., 1824, *ch.* 20 March, 1825.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Elizabeth Powell, of Rockwell-green, in Wellington, *b.* 5 Dec., 1824, *ch.* 20 March, 1825.
Betsy, dau. of James and Ann Giles, *b.* 27 April, 1823, *ch.* 27 June, 1824.
Anna, dau. of William Collard and Anna Pyne, *b.* 8 June, 1825, *ch.* 3 July, 1825.
Charles, son of John and Harriot Sharland, *b.* 7 June, 1825, *ch.* 3 July, 1825.
Charles, son of James and Ann Fry, *b.* 31 May, 1825, *ch.* 3 July, 1825.
Charles, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 28 March, 1825, *ch.* 3 July, 1825.
James, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 30 June, 1825, *ch.* 4 Sept., 1825.
Sarah, dau. of John and Sarah Roost of West Buckland, *b.* 5 June, 1825, *ch.* 4 Sept., 1825.
Robert, son of John and Hannah Lovell, *b.* 17 Aug., 1825, *ch.* 4 Sept., 1825.
Eliza, dau. of William and Hannah Gregory, *b.* 20 March, 1825, *ch.* 4 Sept., 1825.
Joseph, son of Joseph and Susan Pyne, *b.* 4 March, 1826, *ch.* 28 May, 1826.
Eliza, dau. of Thomas and Susan Penny, *b.* 27 April, 1826, *ch.* 28 May, 1826.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 26 July, 1825, *ch.* 28 May, 1826.
Christopher, son of William and Sarah Clarke, *b.* 25 Mar., 1826, *ch.* 28 May, 1826.
Willm. Hosch, son of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 14 Aug., 1826, *ch.* 17 Sept., 1826.
Alfred, son of Andrew and Elizabeth Cosins, *b.* 16 May, 1826, *ch.* 17 Sept., 1826.
Hannah, dau. of James and Hannah Jiles [Giles], *b.* 8 Aug., 1826, *ch.* 17 Sept., 1826.
Edward, son of Thomas and Ann Marshall, *b.* 9 Sept., 1820, *ch.* 17 Sept., 1826.
Jane, dau. of Thomas and Ann Marshall, *b.* 16 Aug., 1824, *ch.* 17 Sept., 1826.
Mary, dau. of John and Elizabeth Harvey, *b.* 16 Jan., 1826, *ch.* 17 Sept., 1826.
Jane Ann, dau. of James and Anstice Chadwell, *b.* 3 June, 1806, *ch.* 30 Mar., 1827.
Joseph John, son of William Collard and Anna Pyne, *b.* 27 April, 1827, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Robert, son of Thomas and Amelia Ebden, *b.* 23 Jan., 1823, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Joseph, son of Thomas and Amelia Ebden, *b.* 25 May, 1826, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Robert, son of John and Sarah Chappell, *b.* 7 Dec., 1826, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Mary, dau. of William and Ann Crocker, *b.* 6 Nov., 1816, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
William, son of William and Ann Crocker, *b.* 29 Sept., 1819, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Samuel, son of William and Ann Crocker, *b.* 22 June, 1822, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Ann Crocker, *b.* 26 Dec., 1825, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
James, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 8 Mar., 1827, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Jane, dau. of William and Elizabeth Powell, *b.* 6 Oct., 1826, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Ann, dau. of John and Rebekah Hutchings, *b.* 17 Mar., 1826, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.
Alfred, son of James and Sarah Turner, *b.* 27 May, 1822, *ch.* 27 May, 1827
Eliza, dau. of Thomas and Eliza Richards, *b.* 28 Oct., 1826, *ch.* 27 May, 1827.

Samuel, son of Robert and Margarett Brown, *b.* 5 Oct., 1827, *ch.* 4 Nov., 1827.
John, son of John and Sarah Roost, *b.* 22 Aug., 1827, *ch.* 23 Dec., 1827.
John, son of Henry and Jane Perry, *b.* 27 Sept., 1825, *ch.* 23 Dec., 1827.
Caroline, dau. of David and Ann Tottle, *b.* 22 Sept., 1827, *ch.* 23 Dec., 1827.
Betsy, dau. of Nicholas and Betsy Tucker, *b.* 12 Aug., 1827, *ch.* 23 Dec., 1827.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Ann Pyne, *b.* 19 Feb., 1827, *ch.* 23 Dec., 1827.
Mary, dau. of Thomas and Elizabeth Tottle, *b.* 24 Nov., 1827, *ch.* 23 Dec., 1827.
Thomas Jarman, son of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 18 May, 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Anna Furze, dau. of John and Anna Baker, *b.* 6 May, 1828, *ch* 22 June, 1828.
Ann, dau. of Joseph and Susan Pyne, *b.* 29 Feb., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Sarah Holley, *b.* 12 Nov., 1827, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Mary, dau. of George and Elizabeth Thorne, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Robert, son of George and Elizabeth Thorne, *b.* 17 July, 1825, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
George, son of George and Elizabeth Thorne, *b.* 13 Feb., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Frederick, son of William and Mary Ann Blackmore, *b.* 30 June, 1826, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Mary, dau. of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 22 Feb., 1817, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Thomas, son of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 14 Feb., 1819, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Ann, dau. of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 20 June, 1821, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Elizabeth, dau. of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 14 Aug., 1823, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Solomon, son of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 1 Jan., 1826, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
David, son of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 8 Mar., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
William, son of James and Ann Giles, *b.* 2 May, 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Sarah, dau. of William and Ann Goff, *b.* 4 Jan., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Susannah, dau. of John and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 21 Mar., 1825, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Mary, dau. of John and Hannah Lapthorne, *b.* 6 Feb., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Mary, dau. of John and Elizabeth Fry, *b.* 12 Mar., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Sarah, dau. of Henry and Mary Hardy, *b.* 4 Aug., 1827, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Elizabeth, dau. of George and Ann Brown, *b.* 12 Apr., 1828, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Jane Timewell, *b.* 25 Mar., 1826, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
James, son of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 19 Jan., 1816.
William, son of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 27 Oct., 1819, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
John, son of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 5 Jan., 1821.
Susannah, dau. of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 27 Mar., 1823.
Samuel, son of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 19 June, 1825, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Eliza, dau. of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 14 Sept., 1827, *ch.* 22 June, 1828.
Thomas, son of John and Betty Glass, *b.* 30 Sept., 1825, *ch.* 3 Aug., 1828.
Hannah, dau. of John and Betty Glass, *b.* 15 July, 1828, *ch.* 3 Aug., 1828.
James, son of John and Betty Gold, *b.* 29 June, 1828, *ch.* 20 July, 1828.
Emily Anstice, dau. of Thomas and Jane Ann Bury, *b.* 21 June, 1828, *ch.* 7 Sept., 1828.
Jane Ann, dau. of William and Eliza Richards, born at Milverton, *b.* 13 Nov., 1828, *ch.* 14 Dec., 1828.
Thomas, son of Uriah and Mary Slade, *b.* 14 Jan., 1829, *ch.* 15 Feb., 1829.
Harriot, dau. of John and Elizabeth Blackmore, *b.* 7 Feb., 1829, *ch.* 22 Feb., 1829.
Mary Downing Russell, dau. of Robert and Mary Ann Scott, *b.* 18 Jan., 1823, *ch.* 3 June, 1829,

Ann Sophia Russell, dau. of Robert and Mary Ann Scott, *b.* 17 July, 1828, *ch.* 3 June, 1829.
Clement, son of James and Edith Waldron, *b.* at Wiveliscombe, 19 March, 1826, *ch.* 8 July, 1829.
Anna Lean, dau. of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 21 Dec., 1821, *ch.* 8 July, 1829.
John Speed, son of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 11 June, 1825, *ch.* 8 July, 1829.
Joan Speed, dau. of Henry and Joanna Waldron, *b.* 1 Feb., 1828, *ch.* 8 July, 1829.
Betty, dau. of John and Hannah Lovell, *b.* 30 June, 1829, *ch.* 12 July, 1829.
Hannah, dau. of Henry and Jane Perry, *b.* 1 Aug., 1828, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Thomas, son of Thomas and Mary Allen, *b.* 25 July, 1828, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
John, son of William and Ann Pyne, *b.* 8 March, 1829, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Eliza, dau. of William and Elizabeth Powell, *b.* 28 Oct., 1828, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Susan, dau. of Thomas and Anne Lane, *b.* 5 Oct., 1828, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Eli, son of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 10 Aug., 1828, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Elizabeth, dau. of John and Elizabeth Harvey, *b.* 23 Dec., 1828, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Sarah, dau. of —— Babbage, *b.* 30 Nov., 1819, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Sarah, dau. of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 14 April, 1829, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Rebekah, dau. of John and Rebekah Hutchings, *b.* 25 July, 1829, *ch.* 16 Aug., 1829.
Betsy, dau. of John and Ann Clarke, *b.* 23 Oct., 1829, *ch.* 15 Nov., 1829.
Susan, dau. of William and Elizabeth Pulsford, *b.* 20 Aug., 1829, *ch.* 1 Jan., 1830.
Susan, dau. of John and Mary Stevens, *b.* 3 March, 1830, *ch.* 21 March, 1830.
Sarah Hosch, dau. of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 21 March, 1830, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
John, son of John and Elizabeth Saturley, *b.* 8 Oct., 1829, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
Jane, dau. of Thomas and Elizabeth Tottle, *b.* 17 Dec., 1829, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
Selina, dau. of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 4 January, 1830, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
Caroline, dau. of Andrew and Elizabeth Cosens, *b.* 10 January, 1830, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
John Hallett, son of John and Margarett Woodrow, *b.* 24 Nov., 1829, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
George Brice, son of Elijah and Jane Jenkins, *b.* 16 March, 1830, *ch.* 26 April, 1830.
Mary, dau. of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 8 June, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Mary Ann, dau. of Henry and Jane Perry, *b.* 10 June, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Mary Ann, dau. of William and Melenor Glass, *b.* 15 Dec., 1827, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Eliza., dau. of William and Melenor Glass, *b.* 28 April, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
William Mogford, son of Joseph and Susan Pyne, *b.* 1 Aug., 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Joseph Payne, son of Thomas and Mary Ann Allen, *b.* 10 July, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Mary Tucker, *b.* 23 June, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
John, son of Thomas and Eliza Richards, *b.* 17 April, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
James, son of Samuel and Maria Woodrow, *b.* 25 April, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
John Edford, son of John and Elizabeth Harcombe, *b.* 20 July, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Joseph, son of John and Sarah Roost, *b.* 24 April, 1830, *ch.* 29 Aug., 1830.
Thomas, son of James and Mary Clarke, *b.* 14 Feb., 1831, *ch.* 27 Feb., 1831.
James Chadwell, son of Thomas and Jane Ann Bury, *b.* 9 Jan., 1831, *ch.* 10 April, 1831.
Emma, dau. of John and Elizabeth Blackmore, *b.* 23 Jan., 1831, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Thomas, son of Thomas and Ann Wescott, *b.* 3 Jan., 1829, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Anna, dau. of Thomas and Ann Wescott, *b.* 8 Feb., 1831, *ch.* 19 June, 1831,

Mary Powell, dau. of John and Hannah Tottle, *b.* 12 Feb., 1831, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Eliza, dau. of John and Jane Richards, *b.* 11 Nov., 1830, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Alfred, son of William and Sarah Johnson, *b.* 17 Dec., 1830, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Sarah, dau. of James and Sarah Selwood, *b.* 8 Jan., 1831, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Thomas, son of William and Betty Powell, *b.* 14 Sept., 1830, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
James, son of George and Ann Brown, *b.* 11 March, 1831, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Elizabeth, dau. of John and Elizabeth Fry, *b.* 24 April, 1831, *ch.* 19 June, 1831.
Robert, son of Robert and Mary Pyne, *b.* 15 June, 1831, *ch.* 3 July, 1831.
Mary Ann, dau. of Mary and Uriah Slade, *b.* 22 Dec., 1830, *ch.* 3 July, 1831.
John, son of William and Maria Goff, *b.* 24 July, 1831, *ch.* 7 Aug., 1831.
Caroline, dau. of Sarah and David Stradling, *b.* 9 Feb., 1832, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
John Lane, son of James and Hannah Veals, *b.* 10 Feb., 1832, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Jane Veals, *b.* 29 Sept., 1831, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
John, son of James and Betty Hill, *b.* 19 Aug., 1831, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Ann Clarke, *b.* 16 Jan., 1832, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
Samuel, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 3 Dec., 1831, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
Eliza, dau. of David and Ann Tottle, *b.* 30 May, 1831, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
John Alexander, son of James and Harriot Stradling, *b.* 22 Feb., 1832, *ch.* 11 March, 1832.
William, son of Thomas and Mary Pulsford, *b.* 2 April, 1829.
Thomas, son of Thomas and Mary Pulsford, *b.* 19 June, 1831, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas and Eliza Edwards, *b.* 23 Feb., 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Eliza, dau. of Samuel and Jane Knight, *b.* 28 March, 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Charlotte, dau. of Thomas and Charlotte Bullar, *b.* 25 Aug., 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Charles Thomas, son of John and Harriot Cross, *b.* 1 April, 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Mary Ann, dau. of James and Ann Temple, *b.* 6 Sept., 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Jane Symmonds, dau. of John and Elizabeth Harcombe, *b.* 3 Aug., 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Mary, dau. of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 31 May, 1832, *ch.* 23 Sept., 1832.
Margarett Harris, dau. of Robert and Elizabeth Brown, *b.* 11 Oct., 1832, *ch.* 18 Nov., 1832.
Thirza Baker, dau. of Joseph and Susan Pyne, *b.* 16 Oct., 1832, *ch.* 18 Nov., 1832.
Sarah, dau. of William and Elizabeth Pulsford, *b.* 6 Nov., 1832, *ch.* 18 Nov., 1832.
Sophia, dau. of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 17 Sept., 1832, *ch.* 24 March, 1833.
Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas and Ann Lane, *b.* 20 Feb., 1833, *ch.* 24 March, 1833.
Henry, son of James and Mary Clarke, *b.* 3 Feb., 1833, *ch.* 24 March, 1833.
James, son of Samuel and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 9 Feb., 1833, *ch.* 24 March, 1833.
George, son of William and Grace Vinting, *b.* 19 Jan., 1833, *ch.* 24 March, 1833.
Charles, son of John and Susan Eveleigh, *b.* 6 Nov., 1832, *ch.* 24 March, 1833.
Thomas Frank, son of Thomas and Jane Ann Bury, *b.* 27 Nov., 1832, *ch.* 2 June, 1833.
Samuel, son of Samuel and Maria Woodrow, *b.* 25 April, 1833, *ch.* 6 Sept., 1833.
William, son of William and Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 18 April, 1833, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
Mary, dau. of William and Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 18 April, 1833, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
Ann, dau. of Thomas and Mary Ann Allen, *b.* 2 Feb., 1833, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
Sarah, dau. of Jane Blackmore, *b.* 18 June, 1819, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
Caroline, dau. of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 30 May, 1833, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
Ann, dau. of John and Mary Hill, *b.* , *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
Susan, dau. of William and Ann Hill, *b.* 3 May, 1833, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
William, son of Thomas and Mary Bragg, *b.* 3 Aug., 1833.

James, son of Thomas and Mary Bragg, *b.* 1 June, 1825, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
John, son of Thomas and Mary Bragg, *b.* 8 Oct., 1828, *ch.* 13 Oct , 1833.
Sarah, dau. of Thomas and Mary Bragg, *b.* 8 Feb., 1831, *ch.* 13 Oct., 1833.
James Newcombe, son of James and Harriot Stradling, *b.* 21 Oct., 1833, *ch.* 17 Nov., 1833.
Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas and Mary Pulsford, *b.* 11 Dec., 1833, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Sarah, dau. of William and Maria Goff, *b.* 16 Oct., 1833, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Ann, dau. of Samuel and Jane Knight, *b.* 9 Jan., 1834, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Myra Jane, dau. of John and Martha Field, *b.* 19 Nov., 1833, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Sarah, dau. of John and Jane Richards, *b.* 16 April, 1832, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Jane Richards, *b.* 22 Jan., 1834, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Sarah, dau. of James and Sarah Selwood, *b.* 9 Jan., 1834, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Elizabeth, dau. of James and Susan Hagley, *b.* 20 Sept., 1830, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Mary, dau. of James and Susan Powell, *b.* 2 Jan., 1834, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
Sarah, dau. of John and Hannah Tottle, *b.* 16 April, 1833, *ch.* 23 March, 1834.
John, son of Robert and Elizabeth Howe, *b.* 28 Nov., 1834, *ch.* 18 Jan., 1835.
Esther, dau. of Joseph and Susan Pyne, *b.* 3 Feb., 1835, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Henry, son of David and Sarah Winter, *b.* 14 April, 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Eliza, dau. of George and Ann Brown, *b.* 17 March, 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Samuel James, son of John and Harriot Cross, *b.* 18 March, 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
William, son of Henry and Jane Perry, *b.* 15 Aug., 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Elizabeth Wreyford, dau. of Thomas and Jane Ann Bury, *b.* 30 Oct., 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Mary Ann, dau. of William and Ann Bishop, *b.* 7 Feb., 1835, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Samuel, son of Charles and Hannah Davey, *b.* 21 July, 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Elizabeth, dau. of John and Hannah Tottle, *b.* 13 Feb., 1835, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Robert, son of John and Jane Martin, *b.* 31 Dec., 1828, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Mary, dau. of John and Jane Martin, *b.* 20 Jan., 1831, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Charlotte, dau. of John and Jane Martin, *b.* 24 July, 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Sarah Syle, dau. of Thomas and Maria Clarke, *b.* 10 Sept., 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Miriam, dau. of Robert and Sarah Clarke, *b.* 30 Jan., 1835, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
James Clarke, son of John and Elizabeth Harcombe, *b.* 11 Oct., 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
James, son of George and Elizabeth Thorne, *b.* 5 Sept., 1830, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Elizabeth, dau. of George and Elizabeth Thorne, *b.* 14 Feb., 1834, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
Phœbe, dau. of John Harcombe and Sarah Cuff, *b.* 17 Jan., 1835, *ch.* 8 March, 1835.
George, son of —— Brown, *b.* (no date), *ch.* 20 March, 1835.
Charles, son of Thomas and Mary Ann Allen, *b.* 5 May, 1835, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Lydia, dau. of James and Mary Clarke, *b.* 3 Aug., 1835, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Samuel, son of John and Elizabeth Blackmore, *b.* 17 July, 1835, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
John, son of George and Ann Lang, *b.* 20 Nov., 1834, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
George Thomas, son of George and Elizabeth Freek, *b.* 1 May, 1835, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Sarah, dau. of Nathaniel and Betty Thorne, *b.* 13 June, 1827, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Charlotte, dau. of Nathaniel and Betty Thorne, *b.* 19 June, 1831, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Mary Ann, dau. of Nathaniel and Betty Thorne, *b.* 25 Dec., 1834, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Emma, dau. of William and Mary Ann Blackmore, *b.* 18 March, 1829, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.
Charles Henry, son of William and Mary Ann Blackmore, *b.* 13 Sept., 1834, *ch.* 23 Aug., 1835.

Joseph Harcet, son of Richard and Mary Slade, *b.* 17 July, 1832, *ch.* 20 Sept., 1835.
Henry Terrell, son of Richard and Mary Slade, *b.* 27 April, 1834, *ch.* 20 Sept., 1835.
Sarah Ann, dau. of Richard and Mary Slade, *b.* 29 Aug., 1835, *ch.* 20 Sept., 1835.
Hope, dau. of George and Hannah Cape, *b.* 11 May, 1827, *ch.* 9 Feb., 1836.
George, son of George and Hannah Cape, *b.* 8 July, 1828, *ch.* 9 Feb., 1836.
Jane, dau. of George and Hannah Cape, *b.* 9 Aug., 1830, *ch.* 9 Feb., 1836.
Hannah, dau. of George and Hannah Cape, *b.* 21 May, 1832, *ch.* 9 Feb., 1836.
Samuel, son of George and Hannah Cape, *b.* 12 Dec., 1833, *ch.* 9 Feb., 1836.
Sarah, dau. of John and Elizabeth Saturley, *b.* 5 Nov., 1831, *ch.* 13 March, 1836.
Charles, son of John and Elizabeth Saturley, *b.* 12 Oct., 1833, *ch.* 13 March, 1836.
Elizabeth, dau. of John and Elizabeth Saturley, *b.* 20 Feb., 1836, *ch.* 13 March, 1836.
Ann, dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass, *b.* 8 May, 1828, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
John, son of William and Mary Corram, *b.* 1 Oct., 1835, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
Mary Ann, dau. of William and Hannah Gregory, *b.* 7 Aug., 1835, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
John, son of John and Jane Richards, *b.* 24 Oct., 1835, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
Jane, dau. of James and Mary Candy, *b.* 2 March, 1836, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
Charles, son of William and Mary Johnson, *b.* 26 Aug., 1835, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
William, son of William and Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 18 Dec., 1835, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
Thirza, dau. of Robert and Elizabeth Brown, *b.* 16 Jan., 1836, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
Elizabeth, dau. of William and Maria Goff, *b.* 14 April, 1836, *ch.* 29 May, 1836.
Anstice, dau. of Thomas and Jane Ann Bury, *b.* 1 Sept., 1836, *ch.* 30 Nov., 1836.
William, son of John and Hannah Tottle, *b.* 20 Nov., 1836, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
William, son of William Collard of Wellington, solicitor, and Martha, *b.* at St. Sidwell, Exeter, 29 Aug., 1831, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
Anna, dau. of William Collard of Wellington, solicitor, and Martha, *b.* at Starcross, co. Devon, 8 June, 1830, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
Martha, dau. of William Collard of Wellington, solicitor, and Martha, *b.* at St. Sidwell, Exeter, 5 Feb., 1834, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
William John, son of John and Harriet Cross, *b.* 30 June, 1836, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
James, son of George and Ann Lang, *b.* 16 Aug., 1836, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
William, son of James and Susan Powell, *b.* 15 July, 1836, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
Caroline, dau. of John and Harriott Powell, *b.* 14 Oct., 1836, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
Martha, dau. of David and Sarah Stradling, *b.* 11 July, 1836, *ch.* 8 Jan., 1837.
George, son of Charles and Sarah Coles, *b.* 27 Feb., 1837, *ch.* 9 April, 1837.
Elizabeth Ann, dau. of John and Elizabeth Harcombe, *b.* 25 April, 1837, *ch.* 14 May, 1837.
Anna, dau. of Thomas and Mary Pulsford, *b.* 15 Jan., 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
John, son of James and Ann Templar, *b.* 20 June, 1835, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Ann, dau. of John and Mary Fouracre, *b.* 11 April, 1835, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Samuel, son of James and Maria Fouracre, *b.* 20 Jan., 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Eliza Grace, dau. of William Collard and Eliza Grace Waldron, *b.* 21 May, 1836, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Elizabeth, dau. of Robert and Martha Pyne, *b.* 30 Jan., 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Louisa, dau. of William and Ann Glass, *b.* 1 Feb., 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Philemon, son of George and Elizabeth Freek, *b.* 5 Jan., 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Sarah, dau. of Charles and Hannah Davey, *b.* 21 April, 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Elizabeth Jane, dau. of William and Louisa Fanny Procter, *b.* 7 Feb., 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Maria, dau. of Anne and William Pyne, *b.* 25 June, 1835, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
William James, son of George and Ann Brown, *b.* 20 April, 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.

William, son of William and Elizabeth Pulsford, *b.* 26 Feb., 1836, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Susan Baker, dau. of Andrew and Elizabeth Cosens, *b.* 13 July, 1834, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Selina, dau. of Andrew and Elizabeth Cosens, *b.* 8 March, 1837, *ch.* 11 June, 1837.
Eli, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Thorne, *b.* 19 May, 1823, *ch.* 20 June, 1837.
John, son of William and Catherine Allen, *b.* 27 Aug., 1823, *ch.* 20 June, 1837.
James Bird, son of William and Catherine Allen, *b.* 23 Nov., 1826, *ch.* 20 June, 1837.
Mary Sarah, dau. of William and Catherine Allen, *b.* 9 May, 1830, *ch.* 20 June, 1837.
Elizabeth, dau. of Isaac and Elizabeth Whitewood, *b.* 10 Aug., 1836, *ch.* 20 June, 1837.
William, son of Mary Lapthorne, *b.* 28 March, 1837, *ch.* 23 June, 1837.
George, son of Richard and Betsey Voisey, *b.* 22 April, 1836, *ch.* 23 June, 1837.
Ann, dau. of William and Mary Marshall, *b.* 19 June, 1837, *ch.* 26 June, 1837.
Mary Jane, dau. of John and Mary Baker, *b.* 12 June, 1837, *ch.* 26 June, 1837.
Joseph, son of William and Mary Ann Bowerman, *b.* 6 April, 1837, *ch.* 26 June, 1837.
Emma, dau. of Thomas and Maria Jones, *b.* 24 March, 1837, *ch.* 26 June, 1837.
Uriah, son of Uriah and Mary Slade, *b.* 24 March, 1833, *ch.* 26 June, 1837.
Charles, son of Robert and Grace Salter, *b.* 12 May, 1837, *ch.* 26 June, 1837.
Eliza, dau. of Richard and Mary Slade, *b.* 12 March, 1837.
Thomas Deacon, son of Charles James and Hannah Haddon, *b.* 21 May, 1834, *ch.* 28 June, 1837.
Elizabeth, dau. of Charles James and Hannah Haddon, *b.* 5 May, 1835, *ch.* 28 June, 1837.
Charles, son of William and Grace Vinting, *b.* 21 May, 1837, *ch.* 30 June, 1837.

BURIALS, 1812–1837.

Commencement of the Register of Burials at the Lower Meeting, Wellington, Somerset, in the year 1812.[1]

Was interred		Aged years.
1812.		
8 July	Mrs. Mary Fackrell	30
30 Aug.	J. Pyne	17
1 Oct.	Samuel Fouracre	2
17 Nov.	John Greenslade	infant
1813.		
25 Jan.	Betty Greedy	70
28 ,,	Jane Bishop	66
3 Feb.	Edward Dare	78
10 ,,	Mr. Robert Furze	80
11 April	James Wood	child
,,	James Cornish	do
28 ,,	B. Lane	53
9 May	John Warr	child
14 ,,	Mr. Haddon's	child
2 June	Wm. Brok.	child
12 ,,	Mr. Haddon's	child
17 July	Robert Brown	2
19 ,,	Thos. Cockram	child
19 Aug.	William Waterman	20
29 Sept.	John Greenslade	25
3 Oct.	William Jewell	29
10 ,,	Betty Rutter	74
2 Nov.	Mrs. Joan Froast	68
21 ,,	William Marshall	66
28 ,,	James Curram	
1 Dec.	John Greedy	78
7 ,,	Wm. Frost	15
1814.		
3 Jan.	Bartholemew Calway	50
8 ,,	S. Knot	78
13 ,,	John Cade	66
28 ,,	Jane Turner	34
9 Feb.	Wm Pring	child
4 March	Alexander Allen	73
17 ,,	William Hewish	57
29 ,,	Betty Winter. M.	89
2 April	Susn. Pulsford.	30

[1] This list of burials is contained in a small book which is inserted into the front of the foregoing Register of Births and Baptisms.

Was interred 1814.		Aged years.
9 April	Mary Parsons. M.	70
15 ,,	John Thorne	33
18 ,,	Mrs. Quick wine merchants wife	34
20 ,,	Henry Spiller	1½
22 June	child	
24 June	Thos. Coles	24
23 July	Anne Wood	46
	child	
	child	
18 Oct.	John Parsons.	48
1 Dec.	child	
1815.		
8 Jan.	Ann Glass	child
28 ,,	Robt Fry	child
8 Feb.	John Coles	child
25 Feb.	Elizth. Giles	60
9 April	Anstis Chadwill	5
10 ,,	Gyle's child	
12 ,,	M. Philips	60
16 ,,	M. Bishops	child
2 May	Fackrell.	child
—	child	
—	child	
11 June	Ann Moore	84
14 ,,	Sus. Thorne	51
19 July	J. Parsons	2½
4 Aug.	John Stradling	3
17 ,,	John C. Maitrick [*i.e.*, Madrick]	child
21 ,,	S. Twoze	27
30 ,,	Royal Currum	17
1 Oct.	Betty Tucker	65
23 ,,	child	
30 ,,	Mrs. Butler	70
5 Nov.	Sarah Jenkins	80
6 ,,	Maria Waldron.	4
12 ,,	child	
25 ,,	—— Howe	16
3 Dec.	Ann Winter	76
12 ,,	Ann Austin	66
1816.		
7 Jan.	Mr. James Quick wine merchant	44
11 ,,	E. Glass	child
14 ,,	Jane Greedy	84
	child	
	child	
14 Feb.	Mrs. Prickman	69
2 Mar.	Wm. Pulsford	child
3 ,,	John Winter	90
	child	

BURIALS.

Was interred		Aged years.
1816.		
22 Mar.	S. Read	65
29 April	John Fouracre	child
31 May	Thos. Waterman, son of Samuel and Betty	59
30 June	T. Winter	40
10 May	Jane Potter. M.	19
6 Oct.	H. Marshall	62
10 Dec.	Revd. Mr. Allen	73
1817.		
12 Jan.	H. Hurford	63
31 ,,	Robert Bird	72
11 Feb.	John Wolley	child
9 May	Mary Fackrell	child
16 ,,	Mrs. Sarah Fackrell	34
27 June	Betty Baker	56
20 July	Robt. Evans child	70
	Alice Allen	56
27 Sept.	Patience Pyne. M.	22
19 Oct.	Mary Jenkins	child
20 ,,	Chas. Twoz	child
2 Nov.	Hannah Powel	66
1818.		
2 Feb.	Benjamin Pring	84
3 May	Robt. Baily	70
4 ,,	Sarah Withers	11
26 ,,	Thos. Pyne	child
24 June	John Baker	20
5 July	Wm. Searl's child child	
25 Sept.	William Neale.	69
11 ,,	Hannah Allen	76
25 ,,	Mrs. Latty[1]	75
13 Oct.	Saml. Fouracre	
18 ,,	Sarah Bales	child
22 Dec.	Thos Pring	child
1819.		
10 Jan.	John Russell	child
19 ,,	Elizabeth Waterman wife of Ishmael	86
24 ,,	Sarah Waterman daughter of Ishmael	46
19 Feb.	Ann Jewell	74
4 April	Mary Pulsford	11
9 ,,	Mathew Glass	child
25 ,,	Amey Cade	81
	John Baker	56

[1] A mural tablet on the western wall of the chapel, near the entrance, contains the following inscription :—'Sacred to the Memory of John Latty, of this Town, Gent., who departed this life 31st August, 1795, aged 70. Also, Elizabeth his Widow, who died 20th Septr, 1818, aged 75. They lived much respected, and devoted their lives to the service of their Saviour. This monument was erected at the request of Anna, the amiable daughter of the said John Latty by Anna his first wife (formerly of the City of Bath), and the beloved wife of Benjn Bickley, Esqr, of Bristol, where she lived greatly esteemed, and died deeply regretted on the 9th November, 1824.'

Was interred 1819.		Aged years.
2 May	Thos. Eveleigh	child
11 ,,	Mary Parsons	59
29 ,,	John Bowerman	80
4 July	Cape	child
7 ,,	John Long	child
16 ,,	child	
1 Aug.	Ann Rowe	child
13 ,,	C. Hardy	child
4 Sept.	John Russell	child
26 Oct.	Eliz. Bragg	child
1 Nov.	Ann Fouracre	61
29 ,,	Mrs. Eliz. Bicknell	60
19 Dec.	Mary Tottle	37
25 ,,	Wm. Brown	child
	Mary Ann Howe	10
26 ,,	John Berry	70
1820.		
30 Jan.	Sarah Pyne now Green	87
	Elizth. Blackmore	83
12 March	James Pyne (I believe a son of Sarah Pyne)	55
9 April	Abraham Nation	73
	—— Fouracre	child
16 ,,	Thomas Marshall Macdonnald, killed 13 April accidently by a cart passing over his head, aged	11
5 July	John Fry	62
7 ,,	James Martin	30
9 Lord's Day	Mary Ann Blackmore	4 months
11 ,,	Ann Woodrow died of the Small pox	21 years
8 Aug.	A child of Nicholas Tucker	1½
27 ,,	Another child of do.	4½
15 Oct.	Sarah Wood wife of James Wood of Farthing Pitts	45
5 Nov.	Robert Cade	45
8 Dec.	Hannah Thorne	19
15 ,,	Ann Broadfoot	84
	Simon Cross	87
1821.		
4 Feb.	Hannah Woodford daughter of Samuel Woodford	49
24 ,,	Mr. John Bicknell	66
25 ,,	Thomas Powels child Thomas	about 15 months
4 Mar.	Sarah Job	75 years
11 ,,	Ann Snook	56
	(A child no rel: service)	
18 ,,	A child of Sarah Parsons	21 weeks
,, ,,	Abraham Jenkins	60 years
6 April	A child no rel: service	
15 June	Officiated at the interment of Mrs. Kingdom in ye Baptist Burial Ground	66
	John Lapthorne began as Sexton	
29 June	James Martin	67

BURIALS.

Was interred 1821.		Aged years.
15 July	Nanny Spiller. M.	77
20 ,,	Ishmael Waterman. M.	90
10 Aug.	Jane Blackmore	26
30 ,,	Nicholas Tucker. (Revd. Mr. Baynes officiated)	73
9 Sept.	Sarah Lapthorne	66
16 ,,	Mary a child of Joshua Wright	3
20 ,,	George Mansfield	24
23 ,,	Dinah Tottle. M.	82
28 ,,	Thomas Chapple	71
30 ,,	Betty Wild	41
17 Oct.	Orpha Wood	
9 Dec.	Anna Twoze. Mr. Headebourk officiated at y^{e} interment	3
1822.		
8 Jan.	Betty Hurley	56
13 ,,	Mary Alway	32
13 ,,	James Coram	79
27 ,,	Officiated at the Baptist Meeting on y^{e} interm^{t} Nicholas Nunfords daughter	
3 March	Jane Bird	19
3 April	William Collard Pyne	4 months
,,	James Calway	27 years
28 ,,	a child	4 months
26 May	Richard Maderick	34 years
6 June	James Pynes child	6 months
19 ,,	Clement Waldron	2 years
12 July	Michael Baker	6
17 ,,	Susannah Thorne	57
21 ,,	Thomas Winter (Philips Well)	57
8 Sept.	Mr. William Coleman	80
24 ,,	Mr. Joseph Bullers	77
20 Oct.	Sarah Pulsford	80
1 Dec.	Dorothy Puke	65
,,	Ann Wright	1
3 ,,	F. Pope	1½
1823.		
16 Jan.	Mrs. Sarah Hosch	59
17 ,,	Mrs. Sarah Coleman	76
19 ,,	Chapple's child	1½
22 ,,	Mrs. Turner	72
25 ,,	Betty Marshall	92
27 ,,	Philip and Amos children of Amos and Mary Fouracre	4 months
31 ,,	A child of Sarah Stevens	1 year
27 April	Betty Squers	75
30 ,,	Dorothy King	70
11 May	William son of Robert and Margarett Brown	1 yr. 6 mos.
14 ,,	Samuel Owen	23 years
21 June	Samuel son of Robert and Eliza Jourdan	5 months
29 July	Sarah dau. of Charles and Hannah Twose	1 yr. 10 mos.
8 ,,	Sarah Wright dau. of John and Sarah Pring	44 years

as interred		Aged years.
1823.		
July	Martha Cade.	
20 ,,	Ann Glass daughter of Benjamin and [Ann] Glass	7
3 Aug.	James son of George and Mary Wescott	70
24 ,,	William Fouracre	88
2 Nov.	Mary Powell (of New Green) dau. of Thomas and Susanna Marks	39
4 ,,	Downing Hosch son of John H. and Sarah Cuff	1
12 Dec.	Mary wife of John Jenkins of Rockwell green	77
16 ,,	Thomas Searle.	71
1824.		
28 Jan.	Jane Russel late Sharland	37
4 Feb.	A son of Mr. Henry Waldron aged a few months	
15 ,,	Mathew Berry	68
22 ,,	Henry and Charles sons of Thomas and Sarah Pyne.	
27 ,,	Mrs. Elizabeth Fackrell late Twoze	33
3 March	A daughter of —— Parkhouse	
5 ,,	William Glass	62
7 ,,	Mary Sharland	34
7 ,,	Mary dau. of Thos. and Mary Bragg	11
21 ,,	William Rogers son of Henry and —— Rogers	36
28 ,,	Ann dau. of John and Ann Philips	1 yr. 9 mos.
,,	William son of Robert and Hannah Marks	19 weeks
4 April	Susanna Baker dau. of George and Sarah Lapthorne	68 years
11 ,,	Edward Blackmore	84
21 ,,	Jane Searle	84
24 ,,	John Helling son of John and Harriot Sharland	8
25 ,,	Mary Twoze	an adult
2 May	Hannah Swain dau. of John and Mary Swain	38
16 ,,	Betsy dau. of William and Mary Powel	1
28 ,,	Robert son of Wm. and Betsy Bird	8
4 June	Philip son of Robert and Sarah Parsons	54
,,	David son of Elijah and Jane Jenkins	6 months
13 ,,	Jane Jourdan	66 years
20 ,.	Ann dau. of Joseph and Betsy Parsons	21
27 ,,	Daniel son of John and Mary Fouracre	6 months
11 July	Mary Ann dau. of Wm. and Thomasin Parrill	1 year
3 Aug.	Jemima Pope dau. of Thos. and Hannah Padley	35 years
4 Sept.	John son of John and Sarah Timewell	60
25 ,,	Maria dau. of Joseph and Sarah Long	16
26 ,,	James son of John and Betty Bird	47
26 ,,	Mary, dau. John and Betty Harvey	8 months
27 Oct.	John Massey	
29 ,,	Hannah dau. of John and Dorothy Holley	
14 Nov.	of John and How	
1825.		
4 Jan.	James son of James and Betty Jenkins late Woodrow.	4
6 Feb.	Samuel Fouracre	73
20 ,,	Mary Chappell	77
23 ,,	Mary Ann dau. of Nicholas and Betty Tucker.	

BURIALS.

Was interred 1825.		Aged years.
1 May	Mr. Thomas Frost	8[1]
7 ,,	Thomas Clarke	92
25 ,,	Joseph Winter	
7 Sept.	Harriot dau. of George and Mary Westcott	5
2 Oct.	Thomas	infant
9 ,,	Sarah dau. of Willm. and Catherine Allen.	6 months
16 ,,	Mary Westcott	31 years
9 Nov.	Joseph Long	
27 ,,	Amey Westcott	45
4 Dec.	Maria dau. of George and Mary Westcott	13
1826.		
15 Jan.	Miriam Westcott	70
18 ,,	Sarah dau. of John and Sarah Hurter.	3
1 Feb.	Edward Jewel	45
5 ,,	John Glass	87
17 ,,	Lucy Atley	54
19 March	William Bennett.	81
21 April	Willm. Tottle, in the Baptist Ground, Wellington	
30 ,,	Charles a son of David and Sarah Winter	1
4 June	James son of Thos. and Hannah Pope	3
25 ,,	Mary Parsons	30
30 ,,	Joan Furzeland	62
4 July	Mary Twoze	nearly 16
30 ,,	Edward Plaice	71
13 Aug.	John Lane	8
1 Sept.	Mary Ann Jewel	25
10 ,,	Hannah Jenkins	83
17 ,,	Ann Veals	14
12 Nov.	Hannah Jiles [*i.e.*, Giles]	4 months
17 Dec.	Ann dau. Thos. and Ann Marshall	11 years
1827.		
31 Jan.	Mrs. Betty Taylor	86
18 Feb.	Jonas Coles	87
18 March	Betty Symmonds	64
8 April	James son of James and Sarah White	1
3 Sept.	Betty Gregory	
1 Oct.	Mr. John Bicknell, in the Baptist Burial Ground, Wellington	
7 ,,	Nanny Jefferies	
9 ,,	Sarah Thorne	76
21 ,,	Jane Potter	79
5 Dec.	Betty Greedy	87
1828.		
6 Jan.	Ann dau. of John and Sarah Baker	24
23 ,,	William Rutter	70
27 ,,	Mary dau. of Rebekah and Henry Pring	15 weeks
9 March	Edward son of James and Betty Clarke	19 years
29 Feb.	Mary dau. of —— and Ann Marsh	19
16 March	Henry son of Henry and Rebekah Pring	3

[1] This age 8 is marked in with pencil.

Was interred		Aged years.
1828.		
19 March	Mary Ann dau. of James and Ann Small	4
23 ,,	Mary Fay wife of William Fay	65
2 April	Thomas son of John and Sarah Warren	3
4 ,,	Jane dau. of Elijah and Jane Jenkins	4
6 ,,	Mary dau. of Uriah and Mary Slade	an infant
6 ,,	John son of John and Hannah Shattock	2 years
13 ,,	Samuel son of Robert and Margaret Brown	1
20 ,,	Sarah Page	70
25 May	John son of Elizth. and —— Stevens	an infant
8 June	Mary Baker	77
25 ,,	Mary Thorne	65
3 Aug.	Thomas Glass	
31 ,,	Betty Alway	63
14 Sept.	Ann Small	37
15 Oct.	Jane Timewell	25
28 Nov.	Jane dau. Thomas and Mary Chappel	1
29 ,,	Mary wife of Zechariah Carleton Stiff Esq.	31
30 ,,	Robert son of Robert and Jane Lapthorne	1
Dec.	John son of Charles and Hannah Twoze	1
14 Dec.	Sarah dau. of John and Hannah Lapthorne	1
21 ,,	Dorothy Balsh	87
1829.		
13 Jan.	John Jenkins	97
1 Feb.	Eliza dau. of Andrew and Elizth. Cousins	
6 ,,	Thomas Cornelius	89
20 ,,	Susanna Fouracre	63
8 March	James Clarke	66
,,	Sarah Harris	75
22 ,,	John Baker	75
29 ,,	William and Elizabeth Powell	
8 April	Ann Nation	75
12 ,,	John Gillard	
14 ,,	Betty Veals	44
17 ,,	John Bird	79
19 ,,	James Pope	2
13 May	Richard Eveleigh	74
24 ,,	Mary Thorne	85
24 ,,	Betty Woodrow	71
24 ,,	William Allen	10
5 June	Ann dau. of John and Jane Timewell	3
14 ,,	William son of John and Lydia Pulsford	26
12 July	James son of John and Betty Gould	infant
12 ,,	Betty Gore	64
31 ,,	Ann Crocker	48
2 Aug.	Philip Hitchcock	55
9 ,,	James son of John and Sarah Baker	10
14 ,,	John Bishop	85
31 ,,	Miss Bridget Hodge	75
6 Sept.	Deborah Fry	76

BURIALS.

Was interred 1829.		Aged years.
8 Sept.	Betty wife of John Gold	26
20 ,,	Sarah Franks	84
4 Oct.	Isaac Thorne	
22 Nov.	Jane Wright	
29 ,,	Sarah Kerswall	
1830.		
3 Jan.	Francis Cade	
25 ,,	Mrs. Elizabeth Fry	75
31 ,,	Nanny Furzeland	
7 [? Feb.]	John son of John and Mellinor Ebden	2
13 Feb.	a daughter of Thomas and Jane Bury	infant
21 ,,	Thomas Withers	
2 March	John Jenkins of Wellington	78
21 ,,	James Phillips	
28 ,,	Maria dau. of Samuel and Mary Harter.	2
6 June	John Woodrow.	28
11 July	George son of Thomas and Ann Pope	7
22 Sept.	Mr. Wm. Besley	79
,,	Charlotte dau. of Robert and Maria Glass	
10 Oct.	Ann wife of James Pope	
17 Nov.	Amey Glass	86
17 Dec.	Mr. Wm. Fry	75
17 ,,	Mrs. Mary Besley widow of Mr. Wm. Besley	75
19 ,,	Joseph son of John and Sarah Roost	7 months
1831.		
9 Jan.	Alexr. Swain	63 years
22 ,,	Elizabeth dau. of Wm. and Jane Jones	1
25 ,,	Mr. Robert Butter	45
4 Feb.	Richard Job	
6 ,,	Hannah Winter	78
20 ,,	Mary dau. of James and Maria Stevens.	5
6 March	Mary Jenkins	88
16 ,,	Uriah Glass	63
22 May	Mary Ann dau. of John and Mary Fouracre	11 months
5 June	Benjamin son of John and Sarah Cape	19 years
12 ,,	Henry son of George and Mary Thorne	11
26 ,,	Margaret Brown wife of Robert Brown	41
1 July	Thomas son of Zechariah Carleton and Mary Stiff	7
6 ,,	Susanna widow of Bartholomew Calway	70
23 ,,	Mary Jenkins dau. of John and Hannh. Jenkins	
7 Aug.	Richard Tucker	45
7 ,,	Mary dau. of John and Mellinor Ebden	17
21 ,,	Lydia Rutter widow of Wm. Rutter	67
13 Sept.	Officiated at the burial of Sarah Clarke in the Baptist yard, Wellington	76
14 Sept.	Benjamin Glass of Rockwell green.	74
30 ,,	Elizath. Twoze in the Baptist Burial Ground, Wellington	22
13 Nov.	Mary Richards.	75
23 ,,	Mr. Barnard Butter	57

Was interred		Aged years.
1832.		
26 Nov.	William Hewish	34
4 Dec.	Joshua Wright	68
17 ,,	Ann Cording	54
25 ,,	Sarah Swain	13
1 Jan.	Mary dau. of John and Betty Glass	11 months
8 ,,	Robert Spiller	62 years
18 ,,	Sarah Bird	61
29 ,,	James son of James and Mary Poole	18 months
19 Feb.	Thomas son of Willm. and Hannah Marshall	37 years
11 March	William Powel	76
30 ,,	Sarah Chorley	52
1 April	Sarah dau. of William and Sarah Callard [? Collard]	15
15 ,,	James son of Thomas and Ann Lane	4
22 ,,	Sarah widow of Abraham Jenkins	
11 May	Thomas Pyne of Rockwell-green.	51
5 Sept.	John Baker	54
30 ,,	Thomas son of Thomas and Ann Winter	7
4 Nov.	Eliza dau. of William and Millenor Glass.	2
14 Dec.	James son of James and Mary Fackrell	22
23 ,,	John Stevens	84
1833.		
27 Jan.	James Pope	
24 Feb.	Philip Lapthorne	75
2 April	William Pring	84
14 ,,	Grace wife of Edward Clarke	66
21 ,,	Betty Cross	84
26 May	Mary wife of John Swain	81
28 June	Betty wife of Elijah Jenkins	
27 July	Henry W. son of John and Harriot Sharland	22
9 Aug.	Elizabeth Haddon dau. of Isaac Deacon and Sarah Haddon	25
11 ,,	Elizabeth dau. of Richard and Betty Eveleigh	48
1 Sept.	James Spiller	13
6 Oct.	Mary Were	91
8 Dec.	Robert son of John and Hannah Lovell	8
15 ,,	James Hill	
22 ,,	Mary dau. of John and Hannah Lovell	10
1834.		
7 Feb.	Jane Veals	
2 March	Edward Clarke	69
2 ,,	Tamzin wife of Wm. Tottle	66
2 ,,	Robert Glass	about 60
13 April	Geo. Lapthorne	76
13 July	Mary dau. of James and Mary Hill	13
23 ,,	William son of William and Rosa Jordan	19
25 ,,	Mary Ann dau. of Henry and Jane Perry	6
27 ,,	James son of William and Sarah Glass	1
3 Aug.	William son of Joseph and Ann Pyne	4
17 ,,	Elizabeth dau. of Elizabeth Bull	9.
24 ,,	Jane dau. of James and Mary Paul	4

BURIALS.

Was interred		Aged years.
1834.		
24 Aug.	Ann dau. of Thomas and Sarah Clay	1
25 ,,	Mary dau. of David and Sarah Stradling	2
5 Sept.	Uriah Coram	80
14 ,,	Sarah. dau. of Thomas and Anna Tottle	1
26 Oct.	Wm. Son of Wm. and Ann Lapthorne	2
31 ,,	Jane widow of William Rogers	45
2 Nov.	Ann wife of Robert Lane	66
12 Dec.	Mary Ann dau. of Henry and Mary Harris	33
26 ,,	James son of James and Hannah Veals	6 months
28 ,,	Mary Richards of Holy-well Lake	80 years
1835.		
4 Jan.	Ann dau. of Benjamin and Ann Glass	9 months
4 ,,	James son of Robt. and Ann Lapthorne	9 months
9 ,,	Mary dau. of John and Jane Bishop	57 years
17 ,,	A daughter of David and Sarah Stradling	10 months
18 ,,	William son of Robert and Ann Lapthorne	11 years

[1] List of Burials at the Lower Meeting Burial Yard, Wellington, Somerset :—

Hannah Pring daughter of John & Ruth Palmer was buried 30 Jany. 1835, aged 83 years. Registered by me John H. Cuff minister.

Sarah widow of John Hewings, was buried 1st Feby. 1835 aged 75. Registered by me John H. Cuff. minister.

Samuel, son of Alexander & Margaret Woodford, was buried 20 Feby. 1835. aged 82. Registered by me John H Cuff minister.

The following entries are in the same form as the foregoing, but the substance only is given. They are all signed by J. H. Cuff :

Mary, wife of Thomas Slade, buried 1 March, 1835, aged 72.

Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Winter of Philips Well in the parish of Wellington, buried 22 March, 1835, aged 76 years.

Sarah, dau. of William and Hannah Stradling, was buried 7 April, 1835, aged 7 years.

Ann, wife of Robert Fry, buried 24 April, 1835, aged 46.

Thirza Baker, dau. of Joseph and Susan Pyne was buried 26 April, 1835, aged 2 years.

Thomas Kerswall, lately residing at Wrangway in Wellington, buried 31 May, 1835, aged 86 years.

Hannah, dau. of John and Patience Pyne, buried 12 June, 1835, aged 50 years.

John, son of William and Rosa Jordan, buried 24 June, 1835, aged 11 years.

Mary, widow of George Lapthorne, buried 19 July, 1835, aged 76 years.

(Special entry) Michael, son of John and —— Ingram, was buried in the Baptist Burial Yard, Wellington, 7 Feb., 1835, aged years.
Registered 7 Feb., 1835, by me John H. Cuff, officiating minister.

Robert, son of Betty —— Ball, buried 19 July, 1835, aged 7 years.

Robert, son of William and Sarah Lapthorne, buried 26 July, 1835, aged 17 months.

John, son of John and Jane Richards, buried 31 July, 1835, aged 34.

[1] A list inserted after the foregoing burials in the front of the Register of Births and Baptisms.

Mary, wife of Robert Pyne, buried 28 Aug., 1835, aged 28 years.
Susan, dau. of John and Elizabeth Harvey, and wife of James Penny, buried 4 Sept., 1835, aged 22 years.
Elizabeth, wife of John Glass, of Swains near Wellington, was buried 13 Sept., 1835, aged 44 years.
John, son of John and Hannah Allen, buried 15 Sept., 1835, aged 71 years.
Luke Hallick, long a resident in Bowermans Lane, Wellington, was buried 21 Oct., 1835, aged 76 years.
John Cape, of Old Way, near Wellington, was buried 10 Nov., 1835, aged 63 years.
James, son of Alexander and Margarett Stradling, was buried 23 Nov., 1835, aged 35 years.
Elizabeth, wife of William Eveleigh, buried 11 Dec., 1835, aged 45 years.
Mary, wife of Amos Fouracre, buried 11 Dec., 1835, aged 60 years.
Henry, son of Henry and Anna Waldron, buried 14 Dec., 1835, aged 67 years.
James, son of James and —— Coram, buried 3 Jan., 1836, aged 61.
John, son of John and Elizabeth Stevens, buried 20 Jan., 1836, aged 18 years.
George, son of John and Mary Cape, buried 20 Jan., 1836, aged 35 years.
Samuel, son of John and Betsy Blackmore, buried 27 Jan., 1836, aged 6 months.
James, son of Samuel and Mary Fouracre, buried 7 Feb., 1836, aged 3 years.
William, son of James and Harriet Stradling, buried 12 Feb., 1836, aged 5 months.
Jane, widow of Thomas Needs, buried 19 Feb., 1836, aged —— years.
Mary, widow of Benjamin Glass, of Rockwell Green, buried 24 Feb., 1836, aged —— years.
John, son of George and Ann Long, buried 20 March, 1836, aged one year.
Betty Channings, late Bull, buried 8 May, 1836, aged 42 years.
Samuel, son of William and Catherine Allen, buried 5 June, 1836, aged 2 years.
James, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Saturley, buried 12 June, 1836, aged 1 year.
Sarah, widow of James Selwood, buried 18 June, 1836, aged 75 years.
Solomon, son of Peter and Susanna Bennett, buried 19 July, 1836, aged 69 years.
James, son of Benjamin and Ann Glass, buried 24 July, 1836, aged 11 years.
John, son of George and Ann Gregory, buried 20 August, 1836, aged 64 years.
Joseph, son of Barnard and Sarah Butter, buried 20 Sept., 1836, aged 27 years.
John, son of Robert and Joan Furze, buried 15 April, 1835, aged 78 years.
Sarah, dau. of Bernard and Sarah Butter and wife of William Bond, buried 4 Oct., 1836, aged 30 years.
Hannah, wife of Joseph Hallett, buried 9 Oct., 1836, aged 72 years.
Anna, widow of John Furze, buried 25 Oct., 1836, aged 72 years.
Sidwell Jenkins, buried 7 Nov., 1836, aged 72 years.
Hannah, widow of Luke Hallick, buried 23 Nov., 1836, aged 67 years.
Mary Cross, a widow, buried 1 Jan., 1837, aged 72 years.
Ann, dau. of William and Ann Parsons, buried 8 Jan., 1837, aged 11 months.
Ann, dau. of William and Ann Keats, buried 22 Jan., 1837, aged 9 years.
Robert Lane of Swains in the parish of Wellington, buried 29 Jan., 1837, aged 69 years.
Sarah, wife of Isaac Deacon Haddon, buried 17 Feb., 1837.
Hannah, dau. of John and Betty Tottle, was buried the 6 May, 1837, aged 21 years.
Martha Fouracre, widow of Samuel Fouracre of Row-green, buried 20 May, 1837, aged 66 years.
Susanna Harvey, widow, buried 7 June, 1837, aged 77 years.
Mary Ann, dau. of John and Jane Timewell, buried 19 June, 1837, aged 11 years.
John, son of —— Hallett, buried 26 June, 1837, aged 71 years.
Joan, wife of James Thorne, buried 30 June, 1837, aged 65 years.

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